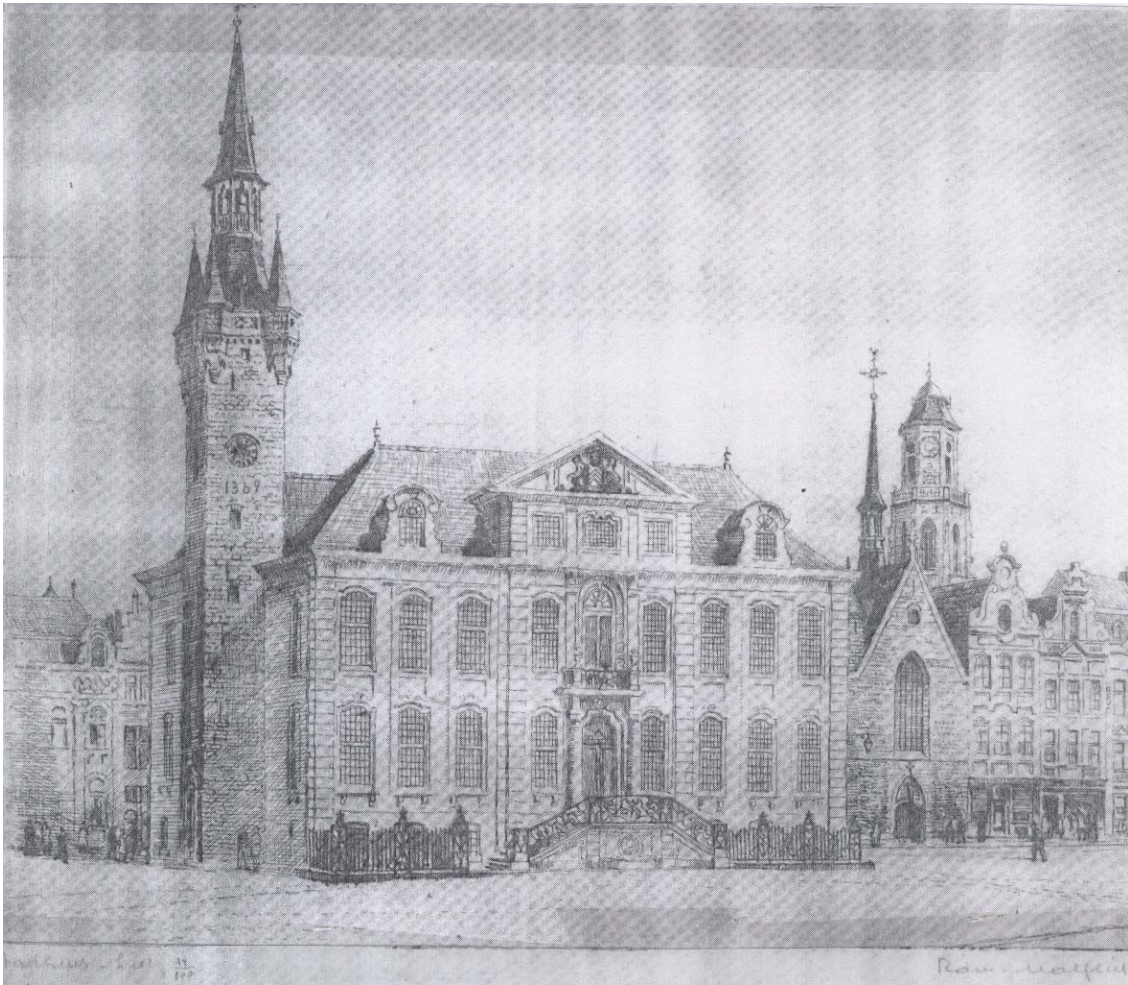


Belgian Laces



Lier: Marketplace and City Hall, where the court sessions of the witch trial took place. In the background St Gummarus Cathedral.

http://www.virtualtourist.com/travel/Europe/Belgium/Provincie_Antwerpen/Lier-352104/Things_To_Do-Lier-BR-1.html

BELGIAN LACES

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THE BELGIAN RESEARCHERS
Belgian American Heritage Association
Founded in 1976

Our principal objective is:
Keep the Belgian Heritage alive in our hearts and in the hearts of our posterity

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Dear Friends,

This newsletter should bring a little something to everyone thanks to all those who have sent in their contributions!
THANK YOU so very much!

Régine

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

892. Alice WARNIER-SUSKO, Port Hope, Ontario

893. Jean PUTMAN, Houston, TX

894. Vickie WILKES, Kokomo, IN

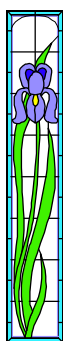
895. Diane PAMPERIN-KULIS, Green Bay, WI

896. Brenda HENRY, Wallaceburg, Ontario

897. Marcel LACOURT, Vittrival, Belgium

898. Rachel LANDRO, Cloquet, MN

In Memoriam



With sorrow in our hearts, we extend our sincere condolences to MaryAnn.

John J. DEFNET

John J. DEFNET, 72, Green Bay, died on Monday evening, May 29, 2000, at home.

He was born on Oct. 27, 1927, in Lincoln, Kewaunee County, the son of John and Elsie (HOSLETT) DEFNET. On Aug. 29, 1953, he married Mary Ann LURQUIN at Annunciation BVM Church, Green Bay. Mr. DEFNET graduated from Casco High School and served in the U.S. Army Occupation Forces in Germany. He was then employed by Wisconsin Public Service Corporation in the Gas Street and the Gas Engineering and Supply Departments. He retired in 1989 after 42 years with the company. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 4505, the Peninsula Belgian-American Club and was a ten year volunteer at the St. Vincent de Paul Store.

Survivors include his wife; one daughter, Janet DEFNET and her husband, Greg KENT, Mukwonago; four sons, Paul and Julie DEFNET, Green Bay; Tim and Jennifer DEFNET, Brookfield, Andrew DEFNET, Madison; and Robert DEFNET, Green Bay; five grandchildren, Ann Marie and Mary Elizabeth DEFNET and Emily, Peter and Amy

DEFNET; one brother, Clarence DEFNET, Green Bay; one sister and brother-in-law, Bernice and Richard BITTNER, Avila Beach, Calif.; and a sister-in-law, Agnes DEFNET, Schofield, Wis.; his in-laws, nieces, nephews and other relatives in the States and in Belgium.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Matthew, Norman, Rev. Louis and Maurice; one sister and brother-in-law, Marianne and Claude THIBAudeau; and his parents-in-law, Henry and Odile LURQUIN.

Green Bay Press Gazette. 31 May 2000

News Brief:

Taken from "Belgium Today" Vol.5 issue 3

<http://www.diplobel.org/usa>

- **King Albert II** is recovering well from the emergency quadruple by-pass heart operation he underwent in mid-April. Doctors characterized the surgery as "preventive rather than curative" and predicted a five to six week convalescence. The King has resumed his protocol responsibilities and is expected to take up his full duties shortly.

- **Prince Philippe**, accompanied by his wife, Princess Mathilde, will be visiting New York from September 9-12 on an image promotion mission. The Consulate General of Belgium in New York is organizing events and appearances. The mission is expected to draw the attention of New Yorkers to Belgian food and beverage, fashion, transportation, and high tech products.

- A constitutional amendment was recently approved requiring the presence of at least one woman in the federal, regional and community governments in Belgium. The move is seen as solid step forward to ensure that women have a place in the

real seats of power. Currently, the government of the German-speaking Community is exclusively male.

- The results are in from this year's **Queen Elisabeth International Music Competition**, devoted to song. The first prize winner is 24-year-old Canadian contralto Marie-Nicole Lemieux. The young singer was trained at the Montreal Conservatory of Music and in the past three years has picked up top awards in several Canadian competitions.

- To increase interest in this summer's **Euro 2000 soccer championships**, the nine spheres of the Atomium, a Brussels landmark, will be covered with fabric to resemble soccer balls.

- A Belgian chef has opened a European pastry and chocolate shop, "**Belgique Pâtisserie et Chocolatier**," in Kent, Connecticut. In addition to cakes, tarts and pastries, the shop features filled Belgian chocolates made on the premises. For more information, please contact 860 927-3682.

*Financiers on a great scale:***The Masters of the Charleroy Coal Mines. - part 2**

Written by André BALERIAUX

Translated by Régine BRINDLE

1830: A darkened Sky.

The Revolution came, then on October 4th, 1830, the Temporary Government declared the Belgian Provinces independent. In accordance with the October 8th Government Decree, Charleroy held city elections on October 20th, 1830. Mr. HUART-CHAPEL was nominated Mayor, Gustave NALINNE and J. WAUTHELET, deputy-mayors, while Mr. DEREINE, LAMBERT and FRANCOIS became council members.

The following November 10th, the National Congress was officially in place and the Baron Surlet de CHOKIER, became Regent on February 24th, 1831.

On June 29th, a new decree would strike like lightning in the Black Country skies: the import tax reduction on foreign coal. This was the drop that made the bucket overflow for the coal mine owners. Surprisingly enough, this also generated the unbelievable growth in the Charleroy coal mining industry.

At this announcement, 14 Charleroy mine owners, whose interests were seriously threatened by the French competition, got together to evaluate the situation. They were furious with this congressional decision. They had to protest against this import tax reduction on French coal! Together they penned a request to the National Congress. They did not mince words. They defended their interests as well as their workers' jobs! That can excuse the boldness of their language.

As a motto for their petition, dated July 6th, 1831, they write: "***A Father does not purchase from his neighbor what he has plenty of at home!***"

They're off to a good start. Let's read on:

"Your decree of June 29th, which reduces the import tax on foreign coals, has struck the most mortal blow to the industrial sector in the Charleroy region! It is not without motive, that the authors of that proposition were so eager to bring it up for discussion. They knew full well that it would rekindle great interest and bring complaints from the people of the towns of Jumet, Gosselies, Roux, Courcelles and other neighboring communities. They knew how long the previous administration had resisted passing those rules, which protected our industry. They had only complied after being completely convinced that it was necessary to the prosperity of this part of the country. Yet, all these documents were lost to your deliberation by hastening the discussion of the issue. This forced the Minister of Finances to admit to you that he had had no time to ponder the proposition, to research or present the observations, which would warn Congress on repercussions that adopting such ruling would have."

One can tell by the tone of this letter that the wind of revolt was blowing.

"What interest was favored? That of the Anzin Company, a foreign and rival company! Had you wanted to court the President of the Ministers of France, you could not have done anything better and more pleasing to him. As a matter of fact, in 1822, the mines in Fresne and Vieux-Condé were contracted to provide Tournaisis and the Flanders, by way of the Escaut and the Lys Rivers, all coals used for burning stone, and baking bricks as the coal from Mons was not adequate. We were thus paying a toll to a foreign nation when the Charleroy mines could provide the very thing..."

A country can not place itself in a more disastrous position with its neighbor than by becoming dependent for things of utmost necessity that it can produce for itself, especially when there is already plenty at home, such as coal and workers."

They ended their letter by touching on the financial question.

"Having the authority and public confidence, if you judge, in your wisdom, that the good of the state requires the sacrifice of our fortunes and of our industries, fairness demands that we be compensated. That is a law of eternal justice!"

Among the 14 signers we find P.A. PUISSANT, J.J. PREUMONT and 3 mayors: H. SOUPART of Gosselies, A. FRISON, of Jumet and H.J. MARTIN of Roux. The last two mentioned added a note to their signature, saying: "in the real interest and well-being of the mine owners, carriers and workers of our town"

Two days later, the merchants of brick coal align themselves with the mine owners. Their motto: "***Any system that tends to favor one part of the Nation and to ruin another, is unjust and unpolitical.***"

"Yes, the annihilation of 8 to 10 mines, the destroying of one sector of industry, the ruin of its investors, a tribute of 700,00 francs to a foreign government, a whole population left without work, reduced to the deepest poverty will be the immediate result of this measure. Fatal selfishness! This is your work if your decree is executed! These are the small sacrifices you require for a foreign company, in the hope to share with her, at a future time, the corpses of our fellow-citizen!"

They end by asking that, at least, the decree be suspended for a while to give them time to liquidate their businesses, which no longer have any purpose.

As one can tell, our independence was dawning in clouded skies for the Belgian coal industry.

The mine owners were quite discouraged, but that gave them strength.

Unity makes us strong.

As we have seen, the decree of February 24th, 1831 and the discouragement that took hold of the mine owners at the news were going to be the basis for the sudden growth of the coal mining industry in the Charleroi area.

How?

The isolated industrials were going to unite. They would understand that, as the Belgian motto says, only "unity makes us strong" and that strength came from uniting industry with finances.

As early as the 18th century, great businessmen had already seen the need to unite, even to merge their enterprises. As René P. HASQUIN reminds:

"The first interesting mergers to take place in the Charleroy basin happened in 1770 and 1792. They were solicited to avoid lawsuits that could come up between owners of lodes that were on top of each other. The alleged motive was, sometimes too, the common use of extraction equipment."

The first companies to merge were Bawette and Mambourg on April 26th, 1770. Grand Prez and Mayeur followed the lead in 1784, as did others too at the end of the 18th century.

After 1830, the coal owners felt how important it was for them to have a solid unity of purpose. Until then they had only worried about their interests and had not seen the advantages in including the general interests of the whole basin. Even though some had tried, they had soon given up when faced by the many obstacles.

But in this awakening country, as people were beginning to talk of improving means of communication, it was of the highest importance that the coal industry be represented. The import tax was a hot subject that had to be addressed quickly.

They wasted no time. Following the letter of July 6th, they sent a deputation to the government to explain their complaints and their wishes. They understand they will have to stick close together. That is how on December 22nd, 1831, the "Conseil Charbonnier" was born.

Their first article of incorporation is clear.

"The undersigned mine owners of the Charleroy area,

Having heard the report of the delegation they sent to Brussels and from whom there is hope to obtain

1. *Equality of navigation tolls for barges of different sizes on the Sambre River.*
2. *The junction of the Sambre to the Oise*
3. *The reduction of navigation tolls on the Brussels Canal.*

The delegation having exposed the plans to destroy the mines and those to grant companies mining on the surface, either the right to mine up to a certain depth, or a share in the product's exploitation by revising the law of April 21st, 1810, the Chambers would be doing soon.

Wanting, on one hand to obtain the advantages mentioned above, and on the other, to oppose vigorously and successfully, the destruction planned against them.

Have decreed the following:

Article One: A Council, made up of 12 deputies, is given the charge to take care of the matters listed above.

It is therefore authorized to take the necessary measures to successfully achieve the goals of this institution."

31 firms signed this first agreement whose aims may seem strictly limited. The founders showed great farsightedness however: they immediately understood the tremendous use waterway access to France could be for the Charleroy mines. About 100 years later, numerous barges transport coal to the City of Lights.

Things got off on the right foot. Under the dynamic presidency of Julien-André-Joseph COSSEE, director of many mines and deputy member to the National Congress representing Charleroi, the action of the Coal Mining Council would reach its ends. The minister decided to send some commissioners to Paris, with the charge of supporting the Belgian commerce and seconding the efforts of King Louis-Philippe' accredited Ambassador.

The coal mine owners would be represented by their president.

Julien COSSEE fought hard. Not only did the customs tax get attention, but also the means of transportation. He demanded the reduction of navigation fees on the Sambre, the Escaut and the Meuse rivers. He pushed for the canalization of the Sambre and its junction to the Oise: the Paris market!

He did so well that on February 15th, he announced his success to his colleagues of the Council: it was decided. Barges would travel on the Sambre canal in 1836!

These men then became financiers. They brought with them capitals to finance the deal. Wrote COSSEE, "I consider the deal so good that I do not hesitate to invest with some friends for the amount of 600,000 francs."

His call was heard. On September 29th, 1834, the members of the Coal Mining Association decided to take active part for 1 million francs.

The canal would not be finished until 1839 and many complications would still arise but no matter, the now united owners would become ever stronger and lead the Charleroy basin to growing prosperity.

The Association progressively included all of the area mines. The expansion was enormous: from 1830 to 1840, the basin doubled its production. It tripled between 1840 and 1858. Capitalism settled in all industrial sectors of the basin.

This strategy increased the economic potential of the region. The need for help increased with it. Until then the owners had only needed a handful of men, women and children. The need tripled, even quadrupled. The population explosion of the end of the 18th century provided an abundant work pool.

There was great poverty and the mines held the best paying jobs, but the offer was still greater than the demand in the basin. Consequently the industrialization era would bring great social reforms as well.

There too, the mine owners would take a front row seat.

(to be continued)

Belgian Emigrants from the Borinage Region - part 2

Collaborative work of Jean DUCAT, Debby JONES, Phyllis SNYDER and Regine BRINDLE

S **BELOT**, Rosa b. Cuesmes emigrated to Danville, IL in 1905

H **BROHET**, Oscar b. 8 Jan 1871, Flenu, son of BROHET, Albert*/BULTEZ, Pauline

Married on 1 Dec 1894 - Cuesmes emigrated to Westville, IL in 1903

W **DELSAUT**, Josephine 12 Dec 1870, Cuesmes, daughter of DELSAUT, Charles Louis/PLUMART, Alice
emigrated to Westville, IL in 1903

c1 **BROHET**, Albert died in Jemappes 19 Jul 1881

H **BROHEZ**, Auguste b. 21 Apr 1873, Cuesmes, son of BROHEZ, Jean Baptiste (27)/MYANT, Marie Therese
emigrated in 1904 birth: FHL#1349154

W **HONORE**, Louise b. 21 Nov 1872, Cuesmes, daughter of HONORE, Ernest/GERIN, Florence

H **CAMBIER**, Camille

Married on 29 Jan 1888

W **BEAUVOIS**, Alice or Elise; b. 29 Apr 1875, daughter of BEAUVOIS, Emmanuel /Victoire Rosine Augustine BOUDIN
emigrated in May 1905

** information on the BEAUVOIS families was found by Debra JONES in a family history book written by Glenda THOMAS, 922 Clay Street, Niles, MI 49120 - 616-683-2845*

c1 **CAMBIER**, Raoul b. 22 Oct 1917, Quesmes

H **CAMBIER**, Joseph b. 22 Dec 1871, Cuesmes, son of CAMBIER, Charlot/CAILLEAU, Catherine

Married on 26 Feb 1898 in Cuesmes emigrated to Westville, IL in 1904

W **DELSAUT**, Rosa b. 7 Jan 1871, Cuesmes, daughter of DELSAUT, Pierre Joseph/THOMAS Apauline
Emigrated to Westville, IL in 1904

C **CAMBIER**, Catherine Pauline Alexandrine, b. 22 Mar 1900, Cuesmes emigrated to Westville, IL 1904

S **CARLENS**, Francois b. 28 Dec 1875 in Cuesmes, son of CARLENS, Jean Baptiste (29)/LOUIS, Clara

emigrated to Morisville, PA in 1904 birth on FHL#1349154

S **CARLENS**, Oscar b. 29 Jul 1880 in Cuesmes, son of CARLENS, Jean Baptiste (34)/LOUIS, Clara

Emigrated to the USA in 1901 birth on FHL#1349154

S **CHEVALIER**, Joseph ca 1871 in Cuesmes FHL #1349154 emigrated to USA in 1899

H **CITRON**, Floriste b. 7 Apr 1862 in Cuesmes, son of CITRON, Modeste*1/CORDUANT, Adolphine*2
emigrated to Osage Co., MO in 1888 with

W **ANDRE**, Juliette b. 19 Jun 1861 in Jumet, daughter of ANDRE, Etienne (24)/STASSART, Adelaide*

c1 **CITRON**, Edmond b. 9 Jan 1887 in Lodelinsart

** Juliette's parents were married in Jumet on 14 Mar 1867.*

**1. Modeste CITRON died in Dampremy on 21 Nov 1875/*2. Adolphine CORDUANT was born on 10 Oct 1883, Cuesmes, daughter of Jean Baptiste CORDUANT who died 27 Feb 1854 & Catherine DENEUBOURG, who died 21 Jan 1837 Adolphine CORDUANT then married 10 Oct 1883, Cuesmes Jean Baptiste Alexandre HONORE, widower of Josephine LAMBIN who died in Wasmes on 23 Jul 1874.*

Jean Baptiste Alexandre HONORE, born in Hornu on 17 Sep 1841, the son of Francois HONORE, who died 23 Apr 1883, in Wasmes and of Felicite Perpetue CUISINIER, who died in Wasmes on 16 Dec 1882.

Adolphine CORDUANT and Jean Baptiste Alexandre HONORE had a child together:

Leon HONORE, b in Marchienne-au-Pont on 4 May 1878.

H **CITRON**, Jean b. Cuesmes? Emigrated to Rich Hill, MO in 1888

W ? , Emma b. Cuesmes? Emigrated to Rich Hill, MO in 1881

S **CITRON**, Edouard b. Feb 1866, Cuesmes Emigrated to Crawford Co., KS

S **CITRON**, Henri b. Cuesmes? Emigrated to Rich Hill, MO

H **COLMAN**, Alexandre Thomas b. 1 Aug 1873, Cuesmes, son of COLMANT, Philippe (35)/THOMAS, Eugenie
emigrated to Mc Cartney, PA in 1904 with birth on FHL#1349154
W **GALLEZ**, Maria Victorine b. ca 1873, Cuesmes
c1 **COLMANT**, Armilde Alexandre Joseph, b. 15 Apr 1895, Cuesmes
c2 **COLMANT**, Eugenie Marie b. 12 Nov 1896, Cuesmes
c3 **COLMAN**, Georges b. Cuesmes

S **COURTAIN**, Alphonse b. 21 Sep 1871, Cuesmes, son of COURTAIN, Joseph (29)/ VIENNE, Rosalie
emigrated to Patton, PA in 1902

H **COURTAIN**, Ulcere Joseph b. 20 Dec 1873, Cuesmes COURTAIN, Joseph (31)/ VIENNE, Rosalie
Married on 22 Oct 1898, in Cuesmes; emigrated to Patton, PA in 1902 with
W **HAURET**, Elisa b. 19 Dec 1875, Cuesmes, daughter of HAURET, Henri/HONOREZ, Eugenie
c1 **COURTAIN**, Emile¹ b. 26 Jul 1896, Cuesmes; married 1922-23 to Helen BEAUVOIS
c2 **COURTAIN**, Clotaire b. 17 Nov 1898, CuesmesET, Elisa (22)

S **COURTAIN**, Joseph emigrated to Cambria, PA

H **DANNEAU**, Pierre b. Quarignon? Emigrated to Hartford City, IN in 1899
W **FLANDOIS**, Palmyre Emigrated to Hartford City, IN in 1899
c1 **DANNEAU**, Jules Emigrated to Converse, IN in 1899
c2 **DANNEAU**, Felicie Emigrated to Converse, IN in 1899

S **DANNEAU**, Clovis France Emigrated to Crawford, KS in 1890
S **DANNEAU**, Henri Emigrated to Crawford, KS in 1890

H **DEBOILLEUL**, Louis died on 11 May 1932, Vermilion Co. IL
W **BLARY**, Marie Louise
c1 **DEBOILLEUL**, Marie married Mr. BECKER
c2 **DEBOILLEUL**, Louis b. 7 Apr 1887, Mons married to LETE, ?
c3 **DEBOILLEUL**, Victoria married Mr. LENFANT
c4 **DEBOILLEUL**, Eva married Mr. LENFANT

S **DECLERC**, Emile b. Wasmes emigrated to Illinois in 1899
S **DECHAMPS**, Jules b. Cuesmes emigrated to Patton, PA in 1904
S **DELANOY**, Adolphe emigrated to Crawford, KS

H **DELANOIS**, Felicien (Felix) b. 15 May 1873, Cuesmes, son of DELANOIS, Agapide*/DIEU Philomene
Married on 12 Mar 1898, Cuesmes; emigrated to Westville, IL in 1902
W **DELSAUT**, Augustine b. 5 Sep 1878, Cuesmes, daughter of DELSAUT, Antoine/BAILLY, Leoline
emigrated to Westville, IL in 1903
c1a **DELANOIS**, Agapide b. 5 Sep 1898, Cuesmes
C1 **DELANOIS**, Victor b. 1 Nov 1899, Cuesmes emigrated to Westville, IL in 1903
c2 **DELANOIS**, Armand b. Cuesmes emigrated to Westville, IL in 1904

¹ **Emile J. COURTAIN** - The body of Emile J. COURTAIN, 66, former Danville resident who died Friday (Aug 10, 1962) at his home in Phoenix, Ariz., will arrive here tomorrow night and be taken to the Barrick & Son Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home with Anchor Masonic Lodge in charge. Burial will be in Oak Hill Cemetery. He had resided in Phoenix a year. He resided in Jackson, Michigan for 15 years and prior to that lived in Danville.

Born July 26, 1896 in Belgium, he was the son of Ulcer and Elizabeth HAUREZ COURTAIN.

He was married in 1959 to Elizabeth READE who survives.

Also surviving are a son, Emile, Jr. of Phoenix; a daughter, Mrs. Joanne DODD of Jackson; a sister, Mrs Leah MARTIN of Danville; a brother, George of Chicago and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife Helen BEAUVOIS, in 1959, two brothers and two sisters.

He was a former maintenance foreman for the New York Central RailRoad and had been employed by the Peoria and Eastern Railroad for 30 years.

He was a member of Anchor Lodge 980, the Rail - was past president of the 21st road Pioneers Association and Engineers LR Society.

* Agapide DELANOIS died on 30 March 1891, Cuesmes - his widow remarried - see **MANFROID**, Honore

H **DELANOIS**, Pierre Joseph b. 14 Jun 1872, Cuesmes, son of DELAUNOIS, Pierre Joseph/FINET, Josephine
 Married on 19 May 1898, Cuesmes ; emigrated to Westville, IL in 1903
 W **LEVEQUE**, Clotilde b. 17 Jun 1876, Cuesmes, daughter of LEVEQUE, Clotaire Francois Joseph/FINET, Juliette
 Emigrated to Westville, IL in 1904 with
 c1 **DELANOIS**, Bertha b. 21 Mar 1899, Cuesmes

H **DELANOIS**, Emile b. May 1858, Cuesmes emigrated to Danville, IL in 1899
 W ---, Clemence b. Feb 1872, Cuesmes emigrated to Danville, IL in 1899

H **DELANOIS**, Hector b. Nov 1850, Cuesmes emigrated to Danville, IL in 1883
 W ---, Philomene b. Cuesmes emigrated to Danville, IL in 1883

Johanna KEPLER-Antwerp to New York, Oct., 6,1863

Submitted by John Mertens, Kewaunee, WI

ANDRE, ? 22
BAILLE, Emanuel 33
BEGNIES?, Ed. 26
BERIOT, A 25
BERNARD, Antoine Jos. 44
BERTRAND, Leopold 29
BLOCHE, Julie 22
BOULARD, Jules 25
BUYSSE, Louis 29 sailor to Indiana
CAMBIER, Jules 25
CAPIAU, Leonie 22
CAPIAU, Michel Clemens 24
CHARLES, Gregoire 39 Fedonie 36
COLAISE, Felicien 27
COLINNARD, F. 30, Marie Louise 26, Clemense 5
COLLARD, J.L. 29
CROMBOIS, Celine Lafit 20
CROMBOIS, Eli Joseph 27
DAILLE, Alphonse 27, Ann 29, K. 17
De BOUCHER, J. 31, **BOUCHER**, M.J. 24
DEBACK, Pierre 37
DE BRUXELLES, Arnold Joseph 39
DE BRUXELLES, Pierre Joseph 13
DECLARCK, Nicolas 33 to NY
DEGROOT, Frederick 22, Rosalie 26, Marie ? to Indiana
DEGROOT, Peter 38, Marie 34, Eladie 11 months
DE LACE, Pierre Jos., 25
DELCOURT, Baptiste 35
DIMAUX, J. 33
DUBOIS, Pierre 31
DUJARDIN, Theophile 22 smith to Indiana
DUPRAIN, Antoine 37
FARBILLE, Philippe 37
FLEURY, Alexandre 32
FRASENS, Alphonse Antoine 30
GOBERT, Augustin 27
GODART, Louis 23
GODART, Nicolas 26
GONDRY, Pierre Jos. 22 ?
GROSJEAN, F. 22 merchant to NY
H ? " 37 Joseph 7, Leopold 4, Eugenie 2

HOSSITAVA?, Alexandre 43
HOYAS, Alexandre 22
JOLLY, Justien 26
LADURON, Desire 35
LARMOYEUX, L.J. 30 graizer to N.Y.
LATTEREN, Theo 24
LAUSENS, Ferdinand 34
LAVENIR, Antoine 36
LEDUC, Gilain Jos. 26
LEFEVRE, Jean Bt. 28
LOUGAY, Pierre 22
MARCEY, C. L. 23
MEGANK, Berck 35 farmer to Indiana
MEERT, Leopold 30
PIDERRIGUET, A. 27, Honore 33
PIETTE, Nicolas 24
PINCHNIGER?, Francois 33
PORLES, Mide 59 female to New York
POTIER, Philippe 29
RANDOUX, P.J. 36 (return to Belgium 12/5/1865 on ship
 North America, ship went down at sea)
RENARD, Emmanuel 28
RICKHARD, Johann 37 Marie 32
RICHARD, Felicien 37
ROBBE, ? 21
ROLAIN, Antoine 63
RUEN, Hypolite 22
SPRIMONT, P.J. 21
STENMART, Francois 53
STENMART, Gaspard D. 22
THILEBERT, Moise 33
URBAIN, Desire 22, Julie 20
URBAIN, Maximilien 23
URBAIN, Theodore 37
VIERGE, Jean Bt. 17
VIHORTE FIVRE?, Jean Bt. 24
VISEUR, Jean Bt. 27
WINS, Jean Bt. 43

?, Victor Jos 21
 ?, Reyin 27

Declarations of Intention - Brown County, Wisconsin - (a continuing series)

By Mary Ann DEFNET, Green Bay, WI

This series began with the listing of those Belgian immigrants who declared their intention to become a citizen of the United States in 1853 - that being the first year of arrival in the area of northeastern Wisconsin. At that time the only Court House in the area was located in Green Bay, Brown County. As other counties and Circuit Courts were established, the number of people applying for citizenship in Brown County diminished. There were, however, still a substantial number of Belgians coming into the area during the 1870's and 1880's. These people, as well as earlier immigrants, wanted to establish themselves as citizens of America.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Year</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Declaration</u>
Victor BENOE (<i>BINON</i>)	1848	New York	Jul 1855	29 Oct. 1870
Ch. Jos. BOULET	1838	New York	May 1869	8 Nov. 1870
A. Joseph BRABANT	1849	New York	Oct 1855	26 Mar. 1870
Peter CLABOTS	1830	Boston	Jul 1865	2 Apr. 1870
Peter COOPMANS	1841	New York	Nov 1868	3 Nov. 1870
Leopold DE BOCK	1842	New York	Apr. 1868	1 Nov. 1870
Petrus DE BOCK	1836	New York	Apr. 1868	1 Nov. 1870
Emile DELACENSERIE	1837	New York	Jun 1869	21 May 1870
Joseph DELEERS	1841	New York	Jun. 1868	8 Nov. 1870
Louis DE MAN	1837	New York	Apr. 1867	1 Nov. 1870
Francis DERWAE	1844	New York	Jan 1865	30 Mar. 1870
Daniel DEVROEY	1845	New York	Apr. 1866	3 Nov. 1870
J.B. DUCHATEAU	1825	New York	Jun. 1868	2 Nov. 1870
Ghislain ALEXANDER	1834	New York	Apr. 1869	8 Nov. 1870
Philippe GILLOT	1847	Boston	Jul. 1869	5 Apr. 1870
Francois HANNON	1848	New York	May 1853	22 Mar. 1870
Leopold HERION	1844	New York	Oct 1869	7 Nov. 1870
Etienne LACOURT	1840	New York	Feb 1870	16 Nov. 1870
Peter LANDSCHOOT	1823	New York	Apr. 1866	1 Nov. 1870
Francois LERRING (?)	1824	New York	Oct 1869	1 Nov. 1870
Alexander MARTIN	1845	New York	May 1853	22 Mar. 1870
Francois NUTHALS	1835	New York	Apr 1867	1 Nov. 1870
Jean Baptiste PIERQUET	1811	New York	Jun 1856	5 Apr. 1870
Honore RASS	1849	New York	Mar 1855	31 Oct. 1870
Francis Z. RONDOU	1843	Boston	July 1865	2 Apr. 1870
Joseph VAN BOGAERT	1836	New York	Aug 1869	3 Nov. 1870
John Fr. VAN ERMEN	1831	New York	Aug 1866	8 Nov. 1870
Leopold BRUYERE	1832	New York	Jan 1857	4 Apr. 1871
Xavier CLERIN	1821	New York	Oct 1868	4 Apr. 1871
Emile DELWICHE	1845	Green Bay	Mar 1870	4 Apr. 1871
Isidore DEPREZ	1837	Green Bay	Jun 1855	23 Sep. 1871
Jean Joseph ENGLEBERT	1827	New York	Feb 1871	15 Feb. 1871
Marcelin GODEFRIN	1836	New York	Apr. 1867	4 Apr. 1871
Joseph GOTTO , Sr.	1803	Chicago	Apr. 1870	2 Jun. 1871
Felix LURQUIN	1842	New York	Jul 1866	4 Apr. 1871
Jean Fr. Jos. LICOP	1825	New York	Jul 1871	26 Oct. 1871
Felix FIRE	1835	New York	Jun 1859	4 Apr. 1871
Leon PINZE	1837	Detroit	Oct 1868	4 Apr. 1871
Francis RONDOU	1799	New York	Aug 1867	3 Apr. 1871
Isidore AMAND	1834	New York	Jun 1870	Apr. 02, 1872
Joseph ANTONNEAU	1832	New York	Sep 1871	5 Nov. 1872
Lambertus AUSLOOS	1838	Green Bay	Apr 1856	29 Oct. 1872
Philip BASTEYNS	1839	New York	Sep 1866	4 Nov. 1872
Peter BASTEYNS	1838	New York	Feb 1866	1 Nov. 1872

In The Good Old Days

by Michel LAVALLEYE,

We sometimes hear people say, "In the good old days". But what were the good old days?

E. PITON researched the area of Grand Hallet and Petit Hallet. F.P. ISTA researched the area of Bléhen both near Hannut.

Here is what they found.

GRAND and PETIT HALLET by E. Piton

-- In 1465, Grand & Petit Hallet were completely plundered and destroyed during a war between Liège and Brabant.
-- Before the French Revolution, besides the castle of the regional lord. The regular villagers lived in shacks. They were very poor working very hard, from early morning through sunset, barely making ends meet.

-- The poor rotation of the crops resulted in impoverishing the land and loss of revenues. Travelling was difficult at that time. So weather or war catastrophies' effects were felt locally without any possibility of getting help from further places.

-- In those days the armies levied all what they needed on the land they lived upon.

-- In 1673, the armies of Spain, Germany, France and Holland destroyed crops, and ransacked houses. They did it again in 1674.

In 1676 sowing was impossible because of the constant presence of the armies. Taxes were levied in order to finance the armies. The people were so broke they had to sell what little they had to new lords who got the properties tax exemptions.

-- Around 1697 things became even worse. The succession of armies' encampments and requisitions, and war taxes dues to France lead to total impoverishment. Mortality level was high because of hunger and diseases.

-- Between 1703 and 1710 the land was occupied by many French armies. The contributions levied by the armies were heavy. Hostages were taken because the inhabitants could not provide all the armies requested. Besides all this, the winter of 1709 was especially harsh.

-- In 1711 there was a heavy mice infestation, which destroyed two third of the grain and straw.

-- The harvests were poor in 1712, 1713 and 1714. A storm destroyed the harvest in 1718. The mice infestation recurred in 1733, 1740, 1759 and 1760.

-- The war and levies in money, food and feed, horses and carts resumed in 1746 and 1747. The inhabitants were forced to build roads and bridges.

-- Storms destroyed crops in 1750, and 1753. Earthquakes occurred in 1755 and 1756. There was a drought in 1759 and 1760.

-- In 1787, the pastor of Grand Hallet wrote, "nobody has an easy life here, except for a large farmer who bought his land for almost nothing, and oppresses the villagers."

-- In 1793 the villages had to provide men for the Austrian armies, to work on the fortifications they had near the French border.

-- It is only in the second half of the 19th century that the situation did improve in the land of Hannut

BLEHEN by F.P. Ista

-- In 1681, Blehen has one castle, 4 large farms and about 20 shacks. These are mostly 1 large room with a straw roof and a dirt floor. There is only 1 opening in the wall, without any window.

-- The mentality of the villagers: no complexes, violent, brawl of drunkards, superstition and parcimony were the common traits of the population.

-- Between 1672 and 1678 the country is devastated by the armies of the French and other countries

-- In June 1680 a violent storm destroyed the harvest, followed by a severe winter.

In February 1681 a comet brings terror to these superstitious villagers. Another dry summer was disastrous for the harvest.

-- Same heavy drought in 1684 followed more wars. In March 1685 it is still freezing. The summer was very wet.

-- 6 May 1689, the French armies burn the city of Huy: 2 churches and 860 houses burned down.

-- 1690, the wars resume. The city of Liège is bombarded by the French troops from June 2nd through June 7th, 1691. On September 27th, same year, 2/3 of the city of Waremmé is destroyed by the French armies. The wars persist till 1693.

-- A fever epidemic and dysentery killed many people by the end of 1693

Nethen Marriage Index - 1797-1860 (Part 4 -Backwards) - Régine Brindle

Gilson , Augustin/Moise, Felicite	Sep. 16, 1849	Labij , Jean L./Goons, Marie T.	Dec. 14, 1844
Gilson , Jean B./Collart, Therese J.	Mar. 10, 1847	Lacourt , Etienne X./Collart, Marie A.	Feb. 01, 1866
Gilson , Louis/Schoonejans, Marie A.	Oct. 22, 1853	Lardoiz , Francois J./Marie Anne,* ²	Aug. 31, 1842
Girre , Jean P./Vanderlinden, Marie A.	1804	Lardoiz , Jean G./Vanbever, Jeanne M.	May 18, 1831
Gislain , Jean P./Massart, Marie J.	Jan. 17, 1828	Laurent , Alexandre/Snaps, Marie P.	Nov. 07, 1863
Godefrin , Jean G./Baudet, Marie A.	Sep.17, 1844	Laurent , Clement/Bertrand, Marie V.	Jan. 28, 1869
Godefrin , Louis/Albert, Catherine J.	Dec. 31, 1834	Laurent , Clement/Socquet, Marie T.	Jan. 19, 1842
Godefrin , Melchior/Snaps, Marie J.	Sep. 17, 1812	Laurent , Felix/Malcorps, Marie T.	Nov. 10, 1858
Godefroid , Jean B./Vortens, Marie T.	1804	Laurent , Jean B./Gillard, Marie T.	Nov. 22, 1828
Godfriaux , Louis C./Gillard, Marie C.	Oct. 25, 1827	Laurent , Jean B./Snaps, Marie C.	Nov. 27, 1817
Godfriaux , Louis C./Supply, Marie F.	Nov. 29, 1828	Laurent , Jean I./Grietens, Constance J.	Sep. 15, 1866
Goffin , Desire/Albert, Marie F.	Apr. 14, 1850	Laurent , Jean J./Gilson, Marie T.	Apr. 17, 1817
Goffin , Henri/Maricq, Jeanne	Feb. 11, 1824	Laurent , Louis/Delgosse, Marie A.	Oct. 1852
Goffin , Jean J./Fallise, Marie J.	Jul. 09, 1831	Laurent , Pierre J./Page, Angelique	Feb. 11, 1836
Goffin , Michel/Martin, Marie J.	1804	Lecapitaine , Charles L./Socquet, Isabelle M.	Jun. 27, 1826
Gomand , Jean J./Ingebos, Marie T.	May 23, 1844	Leclercq , Henri J./Meulemans, Marie L.	Jun. 22, 1864
Goons , Francois/Moreaux, Marie T.	Dec. 26, 1823	Lecocq , Jean N./D'Aout, Marie L.	May 1852
Goons , Francois/Vera, Jeanne M.	Jul. 29, 1830	Lecocq , Walther/Manquoy, Marie A.	Dec. 20, 1850
Goons , Pierre/Crabbe, Catherine	Nov. 27, 1817	Lefevre , Desire/Gillard, Marie C.	Jan. 06, 1864
Grietens , Guillaume/Henri, Marie L.	Nov. 30, 1850	Lefevre , Jean J./Gillard, Marie J.	Jun. 25, 1862
Grietens , Jacques/Vincens, Anne M.	Apr. 19, 1828	Lemaire , Jean J./Matthieu, Elisabeth	Jan. 20, 1807
Grietens , Jean D./Baudet, Marie T.	Jun. 02, 1832	Lepage , Florimond J./Socquet, Henriette	Jul. 28, 1855
Grietens , Jean F./Coisman, Marie T.	Aug. 04, 1866	Levieux , Antoine/Catsoe, Marie J.	May 02, 1839
Grietens , Jean J./Blaise, Marie J.	May 31, 1840	L'Hoost , Maximilien J./Hanquet, Marie L.	Jan. 1853
Grietens , Jean J./Dimmeaux, Mathilde	Jul. 26, 1854	L'Host , Jean B./Lambert, Marie J.	Nov. 08, 1846
Grietens , Joseph D./Henrij, Rosalie	May 07, 1859	Libotte , Felicien J./Baudet, Marie T.	Apr. 30, 1853
Grietens , Joseph D./Robert, Marie T.	Feb. 08, 1868	Licoppe , Alexandre/Bourguignon, Marie T.	May 12, 1849
Grietens , Louis J./Cassaert, Marie T.	May 04, 1834	Licoppe , Alexis/Socquet, Henriette	Apr. 27, 1839
Grietens , Maximilien/Lefebvre, Marie F.	Jan.29,1841	Licoppe , Alexis/Urbanis, Stephanie	Sep. 14, 1867
Grietens , Pierre/Socquet, Marie C.	Jan. 17, 1829	Licoppe , Amand/De Ridder, Anne M.	Apr. 25, 1773
Grietens , Prosper/Deboth, Marie A.	Oct. 15, 1859	Licoppe , Amand/Draye, Marie J.	Jul. 17, 1812
Grietens , Theophile/Gillard, Marie A.	Nov. 27, 1869	Licoppe , Gustave/Vandenplas, Marie A.	Feb.19, 1839
Grietens , Thomas J./Vincent, Angelique	Oct. 29, 1864	Licoppe , Jacques J./Moureau, Marie E.	Feb. 1829
Guns , Jean J./Fincoeur, Stephanie	Apr. 18, 1862	Licoppe , Jean B./Anciaux, Marie J.	Apr. 14, 1858
Guns , Michel/Valise, Anne	Feb. 22, 1832	Licoppe , Jean J./ Goffin, Victoire	Dec. 18, 1819
Hallaux , Bartholome/Binard, Jeanne M.	1802	Licoppe , Louis C./Rose, Agnes	1804
Hallaux , Dieudonne B./Collart, Marie J.	Nov. 24, 1825	Licoppe , Prosper/Deboet, Marie C.	Aug. 23, 1848
Hallaux , Dieudonne B./Delaby, Marie J.	Dec. 07, 1832	Licoppe , Thomas/Pensis, Catherine J.	Feb. 03, 1849
Hallaux , Jacques/Socquet, Marie T.	Jun. 26, 1757	Lizeau , Francois/Botton, Marie J.	Nov. 04, 1840
Hallaux , Jean B./Ferdinand, Marie C.	Nov. 03, 1830	Lodewycks , Jean B./Pensis, Marie A.	Sep. 10, 1856
Hallaux , Jean J./Lizeau, Marie T.	Jan. 19, 1842	Loicq , Henri S./Anciaux, Felicite	Feb.23, 1870
Hallaux , Jean J./Manquoy, Marie T.	Apr. 15, 1833	Loicq , Leopold/Servais, Felicite J.	Aug. 11, 1835
Hallaux , Marc A./Manquoy, Marie L.	1804	Loijse , Jean J./Vanlinden, Elisabeth	1802
Henri , Alexandre J./Gillard, Marie J.	Jun. 22, 1821	Loise , Desire/Paye, Marie C.	Aug. 20, 1853
Henri , Jean M./Detry, Josephine	May 06, 1853	Loise , Henri/Joseph, Marie, dite JulieFalise	Apr. 21, 1841
Hermites , Pierre J./Licoppe, Marie J.	Jun. 16, 1825	Loise , Henri/Pensis, Anne M.	May 28, 1825
Hiller , Thomas H./Doublure, Lucienne	Apr. 08, 1856	Loisse , Henri D./Rebin, Angelique	Jan.19, 1859
Hoslet , Desire J./Rose, Marie A.	Aug. 13, 1870	Loreing , Ferdinand/Draije, Marie E.	Oct. 1852
Hoslet , Jean J./Vincent, Julienne J.	Apr. 15, 1833	Lorent , Eugene/Draije, Natalie	Dec. 30, 1870
Hosselet , Jean J./Fincoeur, Isabelle	Apr. 19, 1856	Lorent , Jean J./Draye, Marie T.	Nov. 25, 1830
Hurckmans , Jean F./Licoppe, Marie T.	Mar. 16, 1859	Lorent , Jean J./Manquoy, Marie T.	Nov. 26, 1818
Ingebos , Pierre J./Ackermans, Anne C.	Feb. 04, 1857	Lorent , Jean J./Martin, Marie F.	Feb. 13, 1839
Jacobs , Jean F./Licoppe, Elise	Oct. 27, 1853	Lorent , Jean P./Draije, Marie C.	May 14, 1807
Jorger , Guillaume/Grietens, Constance O.	Apr. 28, 1855	Lorent , Pierre J./Carmon, Dieudonnee A.	Nov. 07, 1807
Kaye , Francois X./Detry, Marie J.	May 1852	Lorent , Xavier/Snaps, Marie J.	May 21, 1867
Kinna , Antoine J./Loisse, Veronique	Jul. 12, 1854		
Kuens , Francois J./Ronsmans, Marie J.	Sep. 15, 1855		

² dite ThereseVincent

A Real Witch In The FAES Family?³

By Jos SMITS, Edegem, Belgium j.smits_faes@pandora.be

When researching the ancestors of my wife Laura FAES, I was suddenly confronted with a remarkable "witch trial" held at Lier (Belgium, Province of Antwerp) at the end of the 16th century. The oldest ancestor we found in the family was Jan VAES or FAES, born about 1500 in the area of Kessel, Nijlen, Bevel.

The Faes family enjoyed a lot of prestige in the "Bijvang van Lier", to which these parishes belonged. Several of its members held important positions on the City Board of Lier and surrounding communities: aldermen of Lier, church warden in their parish, in the board of the poors' table, sheriff, tax collectors, etc...

Nevertheless there were also some black sheep in the family, e.g. Anna FAES, put on trial before the aldermen of Lier in 1589-1590. We could not find Anna's connection to the family, but the whole atmosphere of this trial, the kind of accusations and the trial itself make an excellent background of the end of the 16th century, when our oldest known ancestors were living. Awaiting trial, four women, accused of sorcery, were in prison at Lier at the end of 1589. They were: Lijsbeth STRIJCKAERTS, about 35 years old, Cathelijne Van den BULCKE, about 60, Anna COPS, wife of Willem LIEKENS, also about 60, and finally Anna FAES, daughter of BROOS and the above Lijsbeth STRIJCKAERTS, 14 y, in fact a child⁴. At the time they were apprehended, these all lived at Nijlen a town about seven miles east of Lier.

Such "witch trials" were no exceptions in our region in those days and the one we will describe here contains all the elements characteristic to the kind of accusation, the way of interrogating, the extraction of confessions and the refutation of the accused's arguments were the same as in all similar trials all over Western Europe and even in the young Americas of those days⁵.

For centuries our ancestors believed in the active intervention of the devil in human living: dammaging goods, animals and people. Common folk's poor knowledge of natural phenomena lead them to believe that unexplainable events were caused directly or indirectly by supernatural forces. The less one knows the more seems unexplainable!

Strong belief in miracles (favorable events) went along with an evenly strong belief in the unfavorable forces of the Evil One. It was often hard to draw the line between both. Even within the Church much attention was paid to such phenomena and a ritual was developed to help people "*possessed by the devil*" or "*having contact with the devil*". The belief in the power of certain objects to bring protection against such supernatural influences lead to the use of amulets with a christian varnish: rosaries, crucifixes, praying cards, some of them even dating from before christianity: straw under the doorstep⁶.

Most often poor, old, decrepit women came under suspicion of using sorcery against their neighbors because of their lack of ability to adjust. Even the famous astronomer Johan KEPLER had to fight a six year long trial (1615-1621) to get his own mother free. The other children of mother KEPLER refused to speak for her during the trial because it was too dangerous to have been in contact with a witch!

The Trial of Anneke FAES⁷

On August 26th, 1589, Anneke FAES BROSIS and her mother Lijsbeth STRIJCKAERTS were apprehended on the accusation of sorcery. This was probably the result of a third party's declaration.

On September 4th, the bailiff of Lier, Willem BRANDT, in his function of public accuser read the accusation. Anneke's lawyer wanted copy of it.

September 6th, Anneke's lawyer brought request to make public the names of the accusers so he and his client could begin a slander suit.

September 9th, the bailiff admitted he had no individual complaint but had based his action on the general reputation of the accused: "*it is better to condemn an innocent from time to time than to let a real witch escape*".

September 15th, Anneke asked to be freed from jail. This request was rejected on September 19th.

After interrogating the witnesses on October 24th, the judges decided (on the 30th) that Anneke should be subjected to torture. This was normal procedure. Weak people, in this case a child of 14, were jailed, threatened and tortured in order to get new names of possible witches, who could be put on trial so the prosecution could go on and spread into epidemic proportions.

³ The text of this contribution has been published for the first time in Dutch in "Vlaamse Stam", the magazine of the **Flemish** Genealogical Society in 1981 in two subsequential issues (pages 318 and 346) under the title "Een echte toverheks in de familie Faes?". In 1989 the National Archives of Belgium organized an exhibition on "Witches in the Southern Netherlands" and used my text for the "Flemish" part of it. Some new documents on the trial were found at that time. I included the important parts of it in this contribution. In 1991 a Flemish author Kolet Janssen published in the Davidsfonds Editions a novel based on the same story under the title "Het Duivelskind" (= The Devil's child).

⁴ RAA (National Archives Antwerp), Oud Gemeentearchief Lier, nr. 2, f° 139 and following. I understood that these archive documents have been transferred in the meantime to the City Archive of Lier. I'm not sure whether they kept the original numbering.

⁵ K Baschwitz: "Heksen en Heksenprocessen", De Arbeiderspers, Amsterdam 1964, p 390.

⁶ M. Dewulf: "Een Heksenjagersepidemie te St.-Niklaas in 1692", AOKW 68 (1965) p. 39.

⁷ S. E. Aerts and M. Wynants: "Heksen in de zuidelijke Nederlanden", textbook with the exhibition of the National Archives of Belgium in 1989, p. 45.

Under torture the child confessed and pointed out two other women as the ones to have introduced her to sorcery: Cathelijne Van de BULCKE and Anna COPS.

These women were immediately put in jail and their trial started soon thereafter, on November 13th.

We will come back to that trial later.

On November 17th, Anneke FAES filed a petition for mercy and fell on her knees asking the judges for mercy.

The bailiff stood by his accusation but, because he could sense new victims, he did not insist on a heavy punishment and left it to the wisdom of the judges.

Finally on April 19th, 1590, the verdict was pronounced⁸. The aldermen of Lier had asked the advise of the Bishop of Antwerp and other clergymen delegated by him to question the suspect. The verdict: the prisoner would appear at a time and place designated by the aldermen and would, in the presence of people to be named by them, on her knees, pray to God Almighty and the Justice for forgiveness, renouncing her crimes, and fast on bread and water every Friday for one year.

We can wonder, in the light of many cruel trials, if this relatively light judgment was due to her youth, the intervention of the Bishop or to the fact that she turned in two new witches. It will be always a mystery. In the margin of the old document a few notes shed some light over the later life of Anneke. First it says: "*Anneken has fulfilled the points mentioned above on the xx-th of April 1590*". Later another hand wrote: "*My lady of Bouwel requested a copy of the verdict on December 13th, 1600*". The latter remark can be interpreted in several ways. Maybe Anna FAES, at the age of 25, had moved to the domain of the lords of BOUWEL and had to show her file. Another possibility is that Lady van BOUWEL, widow or daughter of the bailiff, Willem BRANDT, lord of BOUWEL, public prosecutor at the trial, wanted to rehabilitate her husband's or father's victims⁹.

An Acquittal.

Before getting to the other victims of the witch trial at Lier, we want to add a short word on Lijsbeth STRIJCKAERTS, mother of Anneke FAES. She was jailed together with Anneke on August 26th, 1589 on suspicion of "*having instigated her daughter, to have fled the day before apprehension, when her neighbors were calling her a witch, suspecting her of sorcery or something like that*"¹⁰. Typical situation of the witch trials: trying to escape cruel prosecution, which always ended on the rack and most of the time on the stake, was considered a confession.

Fortunately the court did follow the arguments of her lawyer, stating there were no serious reasons for the accusation, the three witnesses were known enemies of hers, the bailiff had jailed her against the law since the aldermen after preliminary investigation had not given permission for apprehension.

On September 19th, the aldermen would free the prisoner if she would confirm under oath to remain available for the court if necessary. She did so taking as a witness "*the child she was carrying*". In fact it seems the main reason she could get away from torture was her pregnancy, but should stay available for later "*treatment*". A few months later however the witch watching epidemic in Lier was over and we have not found any indication of a subsequent trial.

A Toad at the Fireplace.

The two women accused of being witches by Anneke FAES were less fortunate.

The position of Cathelijne Van den BULCKE was the most precarious. The arguments about "*bad name and ill repute*", used in all other circumstances materialized in her case because her mother and grandmother were known as witches and that her mother was sentenced to the stake. On top of that, Anneke FAES's statements, be it on the rack, made her a witch, who had tried to involve other people in her crime. So said the indictment of November 17th, 1589¹¹.

Her lawyer tried to avoid torture, arguing that Anneke's statements were completely unreliable due to her young age and her instability. The fact that the statements were made under torture did not seem to be an argument and is not even mentioned.

The public prosecutor rejected these arguments and added one important new one: her relatives had admitted a toad was living next to the fireplace.

On December 11th, her lawyer summarized all arguments of Cathelijne in 38 points. The most important were:

- Anneke FAES ' statement is unreliable
- her husband and son declared under oath "*they never saw anything like a toad at the fireplace nor in the house*" and "*they never heard that the accused's 3 sisters, whom he knew very well, had ever been accused of any sorcery*" and "*they never heard that she might have talked to a ghost, except for the one of the late wife of Jan Van BALLAER.*"
- that the former priest of Nijlen now living at Meerhout near Geel was not able to come to court to confirm that the prisoner received the holy sacraments yearly.

In those days it was a well known fact that a witch could not receive communion without external signs of the devil strongly resisting it. It was quite a trip from Meerhout to Lier (about 30 miles) in those days, however we cannot but reject the attitude of the former priest of Nijlen refusing to help one of his old parishioners escape from dead penalty. Would he himself have been afraid to get involved in the witch trial?

⁸ RAA, Oud Gemeentearchief Lier, nr. 2, f° 147v.

⁹ A. Bergmann: "Geschiedenis der Stad Lier", Lier 1973, p. 229 and 256.

¹⁰ RAA, Oud Gemeentearchief Lier, nr. 2, f° 140

¹¹ ibidem f° 141v.

All these arguments remained useless because on December 18th, the aldermen of Lier decided that "*Cathelijne Van den Bulcke alias Paeschijnsens, prisoner, will be subjected to interrogation under torture in the presence of two aldermen*" ¹².

The result of this torture appears in the court session of December 30th: Cathelijne came through it without confessing!

The prosecutor took this as a new argument against her: "*She did not confess any fact under torture and this with the help and support of the devil*". One can see it clear: a witch was a witch, confession or not: there must be a scapegoat.

Being threatened with new tortures however must have broken her resistance. This also was a method often leading to a prosecutor's success ¹³.

Proudly indeed the bailiff declares that she "*after torture, has willingly admitted that she knows the wicked art of sorcery and has known it for some time, that she learned it from a devil named 'Mooijvaeder' (=Beautiful Daddy), that she involved Anneken Faes Brosis in it and instructed her. Further that she did several sorceries, associated and mingled with the devil*". Hence he concluded she should be condemned to loss of life and goods and be burned alive at the stake.

During the following session of the court on January the 2nd, 1590 the sad and weary Cathelijne confirms her confessions and pleads for mercy on her knees. Her lawyer adds to that a reference to the "Carolina" law: an instruction made by emperor Charles V to improve procedures in legal cases. It was prohibiting unfairness and cruelty during criminal investigation. In this way he tried to convince the aldermen of the illegality of a conviction.

The verdict was not preserved in the archives. Somebody involved in this trial, ashamed of his role, might have made the document disappear later (See also our remarks at the end of Anneke FAES' trial).

The fact remains that Cathelijne Van de BULCKE was burned at the stake on the marketplace at Lier after having been strangled with a cord on the 20th of January 1590.

The Turn of the Tide: Saved from the Stake.

It is likely that Cathelijne's cruel death caused reactions from different sides and resulted in the verdicts that followed. First of all, Anneke FAES' verdict, but also Anna COPS' were much more lenient.

Anna FAES was simply condemned to church penalties: praying for forgiveness and fasting. Anna COPS escaped the stake but still paid a heavy penalty.

In Anna COPS' defense, her lawyer Van de ZIJPE really played with subtlety, which eventually did not lead to her discharge, but at least, along with the intervention of the bishop, saved her life.

Anna COPS, wife of Willem LIEKENS admitted "*she was called by several people a witch, by which confession she was of bad name and fame*" ¹⁴. This, according to the aldermen of Lier in their November the 24th, 1589 session, was enough evidence for further imprisonment. Mr Van de ZIJPE's plea for her on December 23th, deserves a detailed quote.

He first introduced Willem LIEKENS saying "*while he has been married with Anna Cops, now four and a half years, he never has seen anything which would bring suspicion of sorcery. On the contrary he says under oath that during their marriage the prisoner never got up in the morning or went to bed at night without greeting her husband and children with a divine greeting and moreover was always praising and thanking the Lord for His blessings, often doing this kneeling and with joined hands*".

This was a beautiful attempt to show the thorough christian behavior of his client: of itself this was not enough as we have seen at Cathelijne Van den BULCKE's trial.

To demonstrate Anna COPS' inability to practice sorcery, her husband said "*lately she and her husband had been in such extreme poverty they had almost died from starvation*". If Anna could work magic she would have known how to get food!

The accusations against her by Cathelijne Van den BULCKE had a deeper source: their quarrels went back to a time when they lived at Lier in the house called "Den Haeze" (= The Hare). Cathelijne had threatened her "*she would one day get her revenge*" and immediately after that, for nine or ten days, Anna was unable to make any cheese.

The climax of the story: a jewel in the art of argumentation to break the circle in which the unhappy accused were shut up once they were jailed by the bailiff. Van de Zijpe says the incriminating declarations of witches can not be taken seriously because the devil will let them say things to incriminate honest people. Both witches have confessed they have given themselves to the evil enemy body and soul. This proves they were in the hands of the devil and their statements were just the expression of the lies the devil wanted them to tell.

Despite this marvelous plea Anna COPS was condemned to torture on December 30th. Anna confessed. Who wouldn't?

The verdict of April 19th, 1590 says she was guilty, but the punishment was to be a seven-year banishment from the "Bijvang van Lier" (the surroundings of the City of Lier).

¹² ibidem f° 145.

¹³ K. Baschwitz, op. cit., p. 110 and 261.

¹⁴ RAA, Oud Gemeentearchief Lier, nr. 2, f° 142v.

Conclusion.

Finally, the 1589-1590 witch trials of Lier took only one human life. However, the sorrow they brought to so many families was immense. We could not connect the witches to our own family history but I'm sure the trials were discussed heavily at the fireplaces of our ancestors living in the same town.

But better times were ahead.

On May 6th, 1628 Cathelijne Van CRAEN was forced to publicly withdraw her statement that Peereijne De BELSSER was a witch: it was not enough to assert, one had to bring proof¹⁵.

"Catheleijn Van Craen daughter of Jan has withdrawn her words saying that Peereijn is a witch, declaring the same on her knees and with joined hands that she could not tell anything about Peereijn but virtue and honor and that she was a widow with honor".

This declaration was witnessed by Frans FAES, Adriaan Van den BULCK, inhabitants of Kessel and Nicolaas COLEN, priest of Kessel.

- ROCK ISLAND, IL - 1900 US CENSUS - Extracted from FHL#1240338-1240339 part 1

Name	gender		Birthdate	Place	Emig./Nat.	Occupation
Black Hawk Twp. 6 June 1900						
VAN VOOREN , Desire	M	X	Apr 1865	Belgium	1889-Na	Farmer
VAN VOOREN, Mary	F	W	Jun 1869	Belgium	1892	
VAN VOOREN, Mary	F	D	Feb 1893	IL		at school
VAN VOOREN, Louise M.	F	D	Nov 1894	IL		
VAN VOOREN, Annie	F	D	May 1896	IL		
VAN VOOREN, Christina	F	D	Sep 1898	IL		
Bowling Twp. - 1 Jun 1900						
BENACKE , Bruno	M	laborer	Oct 1861	Belgium	1887-Pa	farm laborer
OVERBEKE , Julius	M	laborer	Dec 1864	Belgium	1897-Pa	day laborer
WEME , Peter	M	X	Mar 1871	Holland	1899-Al	Farm laborer
WEME, Florence	F	W	Jun 1874	Belgium	1899	
WEME, Mary	F	D	Apr 1897	Belgium	1899	
WEME, Nelly E.	F	D	Apr 1900	IL		
Hampton Twp.						
DEBACRE? ,Peter	M	X	Jan 1864	Belgium	1898-Al	Farmer
DEBACRE?, Leonie	F	W	May 1864	Belgium	1898	
DEBACRE?, Camil	M	S	Jun 1888	Belgium	1898	at school
DEBACRE?, Amie	M	S	May 1894	Belgium	1898	
DEBACRE?, Harry	M	S	Apr 1898	Belgium	1898	
COOP--- , August	M	X	Mar 1861	Belgium	1891-Na	Farmer
COOP---, August	F	W	Aug 1866	Belgium	1891	
COOP---, Fredrick	M	S	Feb 1894	IL		
COOP---, Frank	M	S	Oct 1896	IL		
COOP---, Maria	F	D	Jun 1898	IL		
COOP---, Clara	F	D	Apr 1899	IL		
BORKMAN , Edward	M	boarder	Apr 1860	Belgium		
Moline Twp - 1 Jun 1900						
DE CLECK , August	M	X	Mar 1865	Belgium	1873-Na	Saloon Keeper
DE CLECK, Martha	F	W	Oct 1870	Germany	1881	
DE CLECK, Charles	M	F	Feb 1828	Belgium	1873-Na	
DECLERCK , Peter	M	X	Jul 1866	Belgium	1873-Na	Bar Tender
DECLERCK,Ester?	F	W	Nov 1879	IA		
DECLERCK,August	M	S	Mar 1895	NE		
DECLERCK, Walter	M	S	Jun 1898	NE		
DECLERCK, Franklin	M	S	Sep 1899	NE		
DE MOYSECK , Evo	M	X	Jul 1856	Belgium	1881-Na	Saloon Keeper

¹⁵ RAA, Oud Gemeentearchief Nijlen, nr. 34, act of May 6th, 1628

DE MOYSECK, Romanie	F	W	Feb 1867	Belgium	1882	
DE MOYSECK, Clara	F	D	Jun 1894	IL		
DE MOYSECK, Louisa	F	D	Apr 1897	IL		
SPLINTERS , Evo	M	lodger	Aug 1871	Belgium	1893-Pa	Bar Tender
VANDAELE , Alphons	M	lodger	May 1870	Belgium	1896-Pa	Day Laborer
VANLACKE , Camiel	M	lodger	May 1879	Belgium	1900-Al	Day Laborer
GELOUDE , Camiel	M	lodger	Jan 1872	Belgium	1900-Al	Day Laborer
MORSON , Charles	M	lodger	Aug 1869	Belgium	1890-Pa	Day Laborer
WALTER , Henri	M	lodger	Dec 1871	Belgium	1899-Al	Section hand
CASHEN , Reese	M	lodger	May 1865	Belgium	1886-Pa	day laborer
VOGELLAER , Marie	F	servant	Nov 1878	Belgium	1899	servant
DUVETTER , Edward	M	X	Jan 1864	Belgium	1881-Na	Wheelwright
DUVETTER, ---thie	F	Sister	Mar 1871	Belgium	1881	
DUVETTER, Finnia	F	Mot.	Mar 1833	Belgium	1881	
WIRMEERSCH, ---	M	lodger				
SIVON, Augustus	M	lodger				
DE SMITH , Peter	M	lodger	Mar 1867	Belgium	1889-Al	day laborer
GOOSSENS , John	M	X	Feb 1852	Belgium	1892-Pa	Lab. @ Foundry
GOOSSENS, Dorca	F	W	Dec 1850	Belgium	1892	
GOOSSENS, Vincent	M	S	May 1882	Belgium	1892	coremaker
GOOSSENS, Peter	M	S	Sep 1883	Belgium	1892	coremaker
GOOSSENS, Rudolph	M	S	Jan 1889	Belgium	1892	at school
GOOSSENS, Frank	M	S	Oct 1890	Belgium	1892	at school
DE YAEGER , Angelus	M	X	May 1835	Belgium	1856-Na	Laborer-city
DE YAEGER, Othelia	F	W	Apr 1859	Germany	1880	
DE YAEGER, Julius	M	Stp-son	Apr 1881	IA		dulling plow
DE YAEGER, Almus	M	S	Oct 1883	IL		?
DE YAEGER, Louis	M	S	Oct 1893	IL		at school
DE VRIEGE , Peter	M	X	Dec 1873	Belgium	1893-Na	Moulder iron
DE VRIEGE, Mary	F	W	May 1875	Belgium		
DE VRIEGE, Clara	F	D	Jun 1895	IL		
DE VRIEGE, Lizzie	F	D	Oct 1897	IL		
DE VRIEGE, Louis	M	S	Apr 1899	IL		
DE BATES , August	M	Bro-I-L	Aug 1878	Belgium		day laborer
PERNISMAN? , Fritz	M	boarder	Oct 1878	Belgium		day laborer
7 th St-Oak Hill						
CONNERS , Silvy	F	Patient	Nov 1864	Belgium	1873	
LOOTEN , Henry	M	Patient	Aug 1873	Belgium	1893	Lab. Steel mill
VAN DE VOORDE , Corneil	M	X	Feb 1863	Belgium	1892-Na	Lab. Wheel Factory
VAN DE VOORDE, Mary	F	W	Dec 1870	Belgium	1892	
VAN DE VOORDE, Elvira	F	D	Nov 1893	IL		
VAN DE VOORDE, Alina	F	D	Oct 1895	IL		
VAN DE VOORDE, Alice	F	D	Apr 1898	IL		
VAN DE VELDER , Seraphin	M	X	Mar 1872	Belgium	1892-Na	lab. Wheel factory
VAN DE VELDER, Leone D.	F	W	Nov 1871	Belgium	1892	
VAN DE VELDER, Minnie	F	D	Nov 1895	IL		
VAN DE VELDER, Mary	F	D	Feb 1897	IL		
VAN DE VELDER, Jennie	F	D	Sep 1899	IL		

More Belgians whose names are unreadable because of the poor quality of the film

Moline Twp. - Jun 19, 1900

VAN DER MEERSCH , Henry	M	boarder	Jun 1864	Belgium	1891-Na	Moulder Iron
BALLINGEER , Edward	M	boarder	Jun 1852	Belgium	1893-Pa	Moulder iron
AMERY , David	M	boarder	Jul 1850	Belgium	1895-Al	Day Laborer
DE SMIT , Julius	M	boarder	May 1868	Belgium	1900-Al	Day Laborer
DE VOS , Alphons	M	boarder	Aug 1867	Belgium	1891-Pa	Day Laborer
DEWOLF , Victor	M	X	Feb 1868	Belgium	1896-Al	Day laborer
DEWOLF, Sidonie	F	W	May 1873	Belgium	1896	

DEWOLF, Rudolph	M	S	Dec 1896	IL		
DEWOLF, Alic	F	D	Apr 1898	IL		
DEWOLF, Minnie	F	D	Oct 1899	IL		
BRACKERETT , Theophil	M	boarder	Apr 1874	Belgium	1900-AI	Day laborer
SADOT , Gust	M	boarder	Dec 1873	Belgium	1894-Pa	Day laborer
DE DECLEVE , Alouis	M	X	Jan 1867	Belgium	1900-AI	Day laborer
DE DECLEVE, Paulina	F	W	Mar 1871	Belgium	1900	
DE DECLEVE, Arthur	M	S	Oct 1896	Belgium		
DE DECLEVE, Clara	F	D	Nov 1897	Belgium		
DE DECLEVE, Romaene	M	S	Dec 1898	Belgium		
NOE , August	M	X	Apr 1868	Belgium	1900-AI	Day laborer
NOE, Louise	F	W	Jul 1872	Belgium	1900	
NOE, Clara	F	D	Apr 1899	Belgium		
DE POORTER , Adolph	M	X	Aug 1862	Belgium	1888-Na	Day laborer
DE POORTER, Sylvie	F	W	Jun 1865	Belgium	1895	
DOBBELAER , Olaf	M	X	Mar 1870	Belgium	1893-Pa	Day laborer
DOBBELAER, Elodie	F	W	Apr 1865	Belgium	1893	
DOBBELAER, Remi	M	S	Jul 1896	IL		
DOBBELAER, Alice	F	D	Feb 1898	IL		
DOBBELAER, Mauritz	M	S	Aug 1899	IL		
3rd Avenue						
HOTBEKE VON , John	M	X	Mar 1851	Belgium		Grocer
HOTBEKE VON, Paulina	F	W	Nov 1853	Germany	1877	
HOTBEKE VON, Emil	M	S	Aug 1881	IL		grocery sales clerk
BOWDEN , Rene	M	X	May 1862	Belgium	1893-Pa	Fact Laborer
BOWDEN, Marie	F	W	Nov 1858	Belgium	1895	
BUTTCHARD , Co...	M	Boarder	Mar 1874	Belgium	1891	day laborer
VAN WAETERMEC ..., Chas	M	X	Dec 1869	Belgium	1893-Pa	Factory laborer
OUESTSCHAREVERS , Bruno	M	Lodger	Jun 1857	Belgium	1892-Na	marble works Iron
DEWITT , Isadore	M	X	Jan 1863	Belgium	1892-AI	iron molder
DEWITT, Emily	F	W	May 1867	Belgium	1892	
DEWITT, Marie	F	D	Aug 1893	IL		
DEWITT, Henry	M	S	Oct 1894	IL		
DEWITT, Ermanie	F	D	Sep 1896	IL		
DEWITT, baby	F	D	May 1900	IL		
VAN BUREN , Chas	M	boarder	Mar 1877	Belgium	1898-AI	Factory laborer
EELKKOUTTE , Jules	M	boarder	Jun 1872	Belgium	1899-AI	Factory laborer

Rock Island and Moline, Illinois Directories, 1882-92 <http://www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/inddb/4684.htm>

Old and New Beveren - Waasland

Beveren is located opposite to Antwerp over the River Scheidt. From way back it has been a rural municipality with many fertile fields. Wide-extended polders and poplar-bordered meadows make the characteristic landscape of the "Land van Waas", also called the Garden of Flanders.

The extension of the Antwerp of the Beveren territory changed this harbor over almost one-third centuries old image and created alongside the idyllic, a modern and dynamic Beveren. Between the Scheidt and the Belgian- Dutch frontier in the north and the European Highway E 17 in the south, Beveren covers an area of over 15.000 ha.

It became one of the largest municipalities of Belgium since January 1st, 1977, when the former village Beveren-Waas on the line Antwerp-Ghent was incorporated with 7 sub-municipalities: Doel and Kallo on the river; the border village Kieldrecht in the west; Verrebroek and Vrasene near the A-

road Antwerp-Coast; Melsele on the National Highway N 70 and Haasdonk along the E 17.

Together with the new Waasland port and the third car tunnel under the Scheidt, finished in 1991, these communications provide the best possible infrastructure for the development of the Left Bank into a port and industrial area. Since the middle sixties, more than 4,000 ha of polderland between Kallo and Kieldrecht ~re reclaimed by filling with sand. Soon the first industries settled dom in the new port area. The Kallo-Lock, which connects the Scheidt with the docks of the ultra-modern Waasland port, allows ships to 70,000 t: where once the farmer ploughed his land, vessels and tankers are moored now! Many things have changed here since, but much has remained also. In spite of the strong protests against the left bank industrialization in the early seventies, there has been continuous care for the quality of life and housing in the fast

evolving municipality. Each season the usual crops grow on the richly fertile soil: potatoes, sugar beets, wheat, barley and flax. Tradition and progress go side by side in Beveren. On the one hand, historical monuments and conserved scenic areas, on the other the nuclear power station, terminals, industries, a port in the making: a gateway to the 21st century.

HISTORY OF LAND AND PEOPLE

In early history, Beveren was a large stretch of plain with numerous small rivers and islands.

Breaks caused by the raising sea level at the beginning of our era made this no man's land increasingly dependent on the tides. Excavations prove that the settlements, which arose along its borders, were either visited or occupied by the Romans.

The first inhabitants of the region reclaimed from the shallows their communal sheep-walks by means of primitive dams, which were afterwards strengthened and raised on the initiative of monastic orders.

During the 9th century vassals of the Count of Flanders were charged with the defence of the Scheidt against Viking invasions; these vassals became the future "Seigneurs of Beveren". They joined the crusades, became allied with the highest nobility of the country and took up arms against their liege lord in an age-long struggle for power.

It was only in 1312 that the then Count of Flanders, Louis de Nevers, got possession of the "Land of Beveren".

From then on a rather peaceful time began, in which the now rich agricultural district, successively shared the prosperity of Flanders and the splendor of Burgundy.

In memory of Adolf of Burgundy, who was a pupil and a friend of Erasmus, the church of St. Martin on the market in Beveren

keeps a copper grave-plate engraved with the inscription of his title "Seigneur de Bèvres".

Sixteen years after the death of his son the seignior was sold in public. An Antwerp merchant obtained Kallo with rights to the River Scheidt. The other estates passed to the Duke of Aarschot.

Four years before this, the All Hallows Flood of 1570 inundated all the low lands of the Waasland; at that time the "Land of Saeftinghe" was also flooded (nowadays it is one of the biggest saline flood areas of Western Europe).

The second part of the 16th century was a disastrous period for the polders: during the siege of Antwerp, the Spanish and Dutch armies cut the remaining part of the dykes several times.

The present day-state of reclamation was started in the 17th century. In the year 1846, most of the shallows were embanked. For over a hundred years the Scheidt seemed to be controlled. During the night of February 1st, 1953 however, a heavy storm, in conjunction with the spring tide, breached the sea bank: four polders were under water and hundreds of houses damaged.

The history of Beveren is above all the history of freedom loving people, who fought several foreign tyrants.

They were never enslaved and throughout all ages the Land of Beveren maintained a considerable amount of independence.

It even had its own weights and measures, that's why in popular speech a well-filled glass is still called a 'Beverse maat'.

When after the French Revolution, the nobility lost its privileges, all seigniories were abolished.

The former parishes became separate municipalities until almost two centuries later, when the incorporation brought them together for the greater part.

NATURALIZATIONS OF DOUGLAS CO., WI

Submitted by John BUYTAERT, Cloquet, MN

<u>Name</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Arrived in</u>	<u>Sworn in</u>
AMYS, Desire	Belgium 1875	NY Apr 1899	31 Mar 1900
AMYS, Emiel	Belgium 1877	NY May 1902	24 Mar 1904
BURM, Peter	Belgium 1870	NY 1900	25 Mar 1902
BUYCK, Henry	Holland 1875	Boston May 1901	30 Mar 1903
COLE, August	Belgium 1867	NY Mar 1900	22 Mar 11901
DAELMAN, Edmond	Belgium 1881	NY Oct 1900	25 Mar 1902
DANNEELS, Paul	Belgium 1882	NY Jun 1902	24 Mar 1904
DE BRUYN, Charles	Belgium 1867	NY Mar 1901	25 Mar 1904
DE BRUYN, Emil	Belgium 1873	NY Mar 1901	3 Apr 1905
DE CLEEUE (?) Aloyse	Belgium 1857	NY April 1900	9 Jan 1892
DEEKERS (DECKERS?) Louis	Belgium 1881	NY March 1903	24 Mar 1904
DE GRAFFE, Peter	Belgium 1880	NY Mar 1903	24 Mar 1904
DE GREVE, Frank	Belgium 1878	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich Jul 1901	25 Mar 1902
DE LAET, Charles Louis	Belgium 1871	NY Mar 1903	24 Mar 1904
DELAMAILLEURE, Alfonse	Belgium 1878	NY Mar 1903	24 Mar 1904
DEMARE, Paul	Belgium 1880	NY Mar 1900	25 Mar 1902
DEMELENAERE, Adolph	Belgium 1881	NY Mar 1902	24 Mar 1904
DEMEULENAERE, Henri	Belgium 1868	NY Jul 1899	23 Mar 1901
DE MUNCK, Fred	Belgium 1876	NY Mar 1903	31 Mar 1906.
DENAEGHEL, Victor	Belgium 1876	NY Jul 1899	23 Mar 1901.
DE POORTER, August	Belgium 1861	NY May 1901	25 Mar 1902
DE VOS, Alfons,	Belgium 1873	NY Mar 1903	22 Mar 1904

DE VOS , Louis	Belgium 1877	NY Jun 1899	18 Mar 1901
D'HOOGHE , Edward	Belgium 1874	NY Mar 1899	22 Mar 1901
D'HOOGHE , Petrus D.	Belgium 1874	NY Apr 1898	22 Mar 1901
DUTHOY , Alouis	Belgium 1877	NY Mar 1900	25 Mar 1902
EECHELAERT , Ferdinand	Belgium	NY May 1896	22 Mar 190
FIELLEMUN , Frank	Belgium 1872	NY Jun 1902	25 Mar 1904
FLEMING , Paul	Belgium 1866	NY Mar 1899	31 Mar 1905
GOTELAERE , Hector	Belgium 1875	NY Apr 1897	31 Mar 1900
HEY (IJ)NDRIKX , Carriel	Belgium 1884	NY Jul 1903	24 Mar 1904
JACQUES , Leon	Belgium 1882	NY Oct 1903	3 Apr 1905
JANSSENS , Onstand	Belgium 1869	NY Mar 1901	24 Mar 1904
LANCKRIET , Renne	Belgium 1879	NY May 1901	30 Mar 1903
LAUREYS , Jos	Belgium 1861	NY May 1903	24 Mar 1904
LAVERGE , Arthur	Belgium 1882	NY Mar 1900	24 Mar 1904
LA PERRE , Jules	Belgium 1876	NY Apr 1901	30 Mar 1903
LOWJA (?) Alfps	Belgium 1870	NY Mar 190?	25 Mar 1904
MAERTENS , Louis	Belgium 1876	NY Mar 1902	23 Mar 1904
MELOEN , Henrie	Belgium 1877	NY Mar 1901	23 Mar 1904
MESSENNIE , Henry	Belgium 1880	NY Oct 1903	3 Apr 1905
MEYSMAN , Joe	Belgium 1876	NY Aug 1902	22 Mar 1904
MIJSTIAEU , Charles	Belgium 1854	NY Nov 1888	31 Mar 1891
MISSINNE , Achielle	Belgium, 1884	NY Apr 1903	24 Mar 1904
MORNHOULT , Alphonse	Belgium 1872	NY May 1902	22 Mar 1904
NAERT , Gustave	Belgium 1879	NY Apr 1902	24 Mar 1904
OZAER , Constant	Belgium 1876	NY Mar 1897	31 Mar 1900
PLOVIE , Theodore	Belgium 1872	NY Mar 1902	30 Mar 1903
POLLET , Theophiel	Belgium 1867	NY Mar 190	30 Mar 1903
ROEGIERS , Alphonse	Belgium 1872	NY Mar 1900	6 Apr 1903
RO TSAERT , Edmond,	Belgium 1858	NY June 1896	30 Mar 1900
RO TSAERT , Nap,	Belgium 1884	NY May 1900	18 Mar 190?
RO TSAERT , Napoleon,	Belgium 1874	New York May 1900	29 Mar 1904
SMET , Thomas,	Belgium 1879	New York, March, 1904	3 Apr 1905
SYNNESAEL , Charles (<i>SIJNNESAEL</i>)	Belgium 1874	NY Dec 1896	6 Apr 1903
THOEN , Isadoor	Belgium 1880	NY Mar 1903	24 Mar 1904
TIELEMAN , August	Belgium 1878	NY Sept 1898	22 Mar 1900
TILLMAN , Ed,	Belgium 1874	New York March 1903	Mar 1904
TILLEMANN , John,	Belgium 1875	NY May 1900	25 Mar 1902
TILLMAN , Paul,	Belgium 1882	NY June 1902	25 Mar 1904
UTTERWALGHE , Louis,	Belgium 1878	NY April 1903	24 Mar 1904
VANDERVAITERE , Jules,	Belgium 1883	New York Oct 1903	3 Apr 1905
VAN DEN BRANDEN , Donnu (?)	Belgium 1844	NY May 1901	30 Mar 1903
VAN DEN BRANDEN , Theopiel,	Belgium 1879	NY June 1901	6 Apr 1903
VAN PUYVELDE , Louis	Belgium 1878	NY Mar 1900	30 Mar 1903
VAN VLAN , Charles,	Belgium 1869	NY March 1903	22 Mar 1904
VENS , Paul	Belgium 1882	NY Apr 1903	24 Mar 1904
VERBEYHK Henri,	Belgium 1878	NY Mar 1902	24 Mar 1904
VERSTRYNGE , Edward,	Belgium 1866	NY Nov 1900	25 Mar 1902
VIAENE , Joseph,	Belgium 1877	NY Feb 1903	22 Mar 1904
WEHTTE , Jos.	Belgium 1880	NY March 1900	22 Mar 1901
YOUCK , August,	Belgium 1858	NY 1898	31 Mar 1900
WASSENHOVE , Joe,	Belgium 1879	NY Mar 1899	23 Mar 1901
WASSENHOVE , Triphon V	Belgium 1879	NY Mar 1898	31 Mar 1900
ZARTAN , Canil,	Belgium 1868	NY Mar 1900	25 Mar 1902

"THE TANK COLLAPSED", HALF A DOZEN MEN BURNED".

Hartford City Evening News, May 25, 1896.

Submitted by Louise Clamme of the Blackford Co. Historical Society¹⁶ - thanks to Matt VERONA, Sugar Land, TX

The new tank at the Hartford City Glass company's factory sprung a leak yesterday afternoon, and the molten glass escaping set fire to the wooden portions of the floor. While men were pouring water on the fire, the end of the tank gave way and hundreds of tons of molten glass escaped into the pit, where coming in contact with the pool of water, it generated steam which burned a half a dozen men, some of them severely.

The tank had sprung a leak. The acid in glass metal is of such a character that once it finds an opening it rapidly enlarges it, and when the opening happens to be in a glass tank, the consequences are apt to be serious. At 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, molten glass was discovered running from tank No. 2 and the fire alarm was given.

The department responded quickly and did good work, although the nature of the construction of the tank building precluded a disastrous fire.

When the word got out that the glass factory was on fire there was a rush to the South Side. Men, women and children were jammed in the open space about the company's office and all who could crowded into the blowing room, prompted by curiosity and undeterred by the danger. Several foolish women even ventured into the crowd with baby cabs.

The leak was at the south end of the tank. Firemen stood at the bottoms of the stairways leading down into the pit beneath the tank and directed water at the leak hoping to chill the glass and stop its escape. Workmen were emptying raw material into the tank above the leak with the same object. But their efforts were unavailing.

The buckstaves or anchor irons, which held the end of the tank grew hotter, and if they gave way it meant that many tons of molten glass would be belched into the big pit and destroy every perishable thing with which it came in contact. Jim Clelland, the company blacksmith, and several others were at the foot of the stairway on one side of the pit. Clelland saw the anchor irons were getting red hot and that they would soon let go.

He shouted to the men in the pit to get out as it was getting dangerous and in a moment the tank gave way. Eight hundred tons of red-hot liquid metal poured into the pit and its own intense heat was sufficient to convert the water, which had collected beneath the tank into scalding steam, which filled the big building.

The contact of molten glass with water caused an explosion which many people thought was a natural gas explosion. Clelland and Jake Moore were drawn up by ropes around their waists in time to escape serious injury, although they were painfully burned.

William Sutton, the plasterer stood on the opposite side of the pit from Clelland, directing water through a section of hose at the leaking glass. He either was too absorbed

in his work to hear Clelland's warning or he did not value it, for he worked on without heed. He was caught in the rush of steam and badly scalded from head to foot. He was able to climb the stairway from the pit, however, and thence he was carried to the company's office. He was taken home, and last night it was thought he would die.

Desire Moll, a skimmer employed by the company, was also so badly burned that it was not thought last night that he could recover. John Worthen was badly burned about the face and hands. But for the fact that he had on a heavy overcoat and wide-brimmed hat, he would not have gotten off so easily. Emil Wittebort and B.F. Wittebort were also badly burned. Several others suffered either from the intense heat of the molten glass or from the steam.

At the sound of the explosion the crowd in the tank became terror-stricken and made a rush to every egress. Some of them jumped from the windows from which they piled pell-mell on top of each other, and those who went last suffered most. Louis Larmoyeux and Michael Fane were among those trampled upon and were badly bruised.

The terror was communicated to those outside of the building, and when it became known that there were men in the pit when the glass surged in from the collapsed tank, the cry was taken up that several were buried under the molten mass of glass.

Last night Ellett Colgan was still missing and it was believed by many that he had perished in the pit. His brother Elmer, however, said that he was all right and scouted the idea that he could have been caught by the glass.

The fire which resulted from the collapse of the tank did not cause much damage. The wooden platforms above the pit were burned away, but the loss is of little consequence. However, the fire department was called to the South Side four times to assist in cooling the metal.

Manager Heagany said this morning that the company had lost absolutely nothing by the accident. The tank has to be rebuilt every season anyway, and it would cost no more to rebuild it this season than it did last. As for the glass, which escaped in the pit, it was not wasted, and this morning he made a contract for its removal for \$200.

Had it remained in the tank it would have cost \$500 to remove it. The accident of course necessitated a shut down of the tank, but it was only five days until it would have shut down anyway, and at this season of the year glass making was not profitable at any price.

Blowing was resumed at the old tank at 12 o'clock last night, as usual.

This morning the scalded men were doing well. Master Teaser Wittebort, Desire Moll, and William Sutton, who suffered the severest injuries, will recover, it is said, but they may be confined to bed a long time.

¹⁶The Cecil Beeson Museum in Hartford City Indiana has copies of the old Hartford City Evening News, for most of the 1890s and early 1900s

1910 US Census Blackford Co. IN - part 1

Name	First Name	Rel.	Sex	Age	Status	#kids/liv	birth place	emigr. St.
LEON,	Henry	X	M	44	M-20		Belgium	1890/Na
	Celina	W	F	48	M-20	01/01	Belgium	1890
	Mary	D	F	19	S		Michigan	
GRINER,	Dan E.	X	M	44	M-8		OH	
	Camille C.	W	F	28	M-8	05/05	Belgium	
	Romain I	S	M	7	S		IN	
	Lauara K	D	F	6	S		IN	
	Lousia C	D	F	4	S		IN	
	Ruth F	D	F	1y 1m	S		IN	
	Alphonse	X	M	44	M-21		Belgium	1885/Na
LEFEVRE,	Estelle	W	F	38	M-21	05/05	Belgium	1882
	Marcelle A	S	M	20	S		IN	
	Gorgette D	D	F	14	S		IN	
	Harold V	S	M	6	S		IN	
	Rena A	D	F	5	S		IN	
	Edgar D	S	M	3	S		IN	
	John P	X	M	59	M-31		Belgium	1887/Na
DEBATTY,	Mary	W	F	50	M-31	07/07	Belgium	1887/Na
	Chas	S	M	21	S		OH	1887
	Rena	D	F	15	S		IN	
	Ernest	S	M	9	S		IN	
	Homer	S	M	6	S		IN	
	Joseph	X	M	56	M-35		Belgium	1888/Na
STURBOIS,	Emeline	W	F	55	M-35	02/02	Belgium	1889
STURBOIS,	Denice	D	F	20	S		MI	
STURBOIS,	Herman	S	M	17	S		PA	
SCOREY,	Peter	FIL	M	86	Wd		Belgium	1890/Al
GOOSSENS,	Hector	X	M	52	M-31		Belgium	1880/Na
	Henritta	W	F	50	M-31	04/04	Belgium	
	Ernest	Neph	M	17	S		IN	
LECHIEN,	Floribert	X	M	47	M-26		Belgium	1874/Na
	Emily	W	F	46	M-26	04/04	English	
	Emily	D	F	12	S		IN	
	Floribert	S	M	4	S		IN	
	Louisa	Sis	F	45	S		Belgium	
JORIS,	Noel	X	M	35	M-13		Belgium	1880/Na
	Fannie	W	F	31	M-13	03/02	Belgium	
	Alfred	S	M	11	S		IN	
	Gustave	S	M	3	S		IN	
TASSIER,	William	X	M	59	M-32		Belgium-Fren	1871/Na
	Rosine	W	F	50	M-32	03/03	Belgium-Flem	1871
	George	S	M	31	S		Belgium-Fren	1871
	William	S	M	29	S		MA	
	Luther	S	M	14	S		NJ	
LAMBIOTTE,	Jules	X	M	37	M-15		Belgium-Fren	1890/Na
	Julia	W	F	34	M-15	04/04	Belgium-Fren	1884
	George	S	M	14	S		IN	
	Jules	S	M	12	S		IN	
	Erma	D	F	11	S		IN	
BRICHART,	Guilliemine	D	F	5	S		IN	
	Julen	X	M	61	M-36		Belgium-Fren	1884/Na
	Juliette	W	F	57	M-36		Belgium-Fren	1884
	Fred	S	M	21	S		IN	
PETTTT,	Leon	hired hand	M	28	S		Belgium	1885
DUPONT,	Joseph	inmate	M	62	S		Belgium	1883

ANDRIE,	Homer	X	M	38	M-16		Belgium-Fren	1880
	Irma	W	F	42	M-16	04/03	Belgium-Fren	1880
	Homer	S	M	13	S		IN	
	Carl	S	M	11	S		IN	
	Ghilanie	D	F	6	S		IN	
BERGER,	Mary G.	X	F	49	Wd	05/04	PA	
	Clara	D	F	28	S		PA	
	George	S	M	24	S		OH	
	Mai	D	F	21	S		IN	
NICIASE,	Ida	GD	F	14	S		IN	
	Laura	GD	F	12	S		IN	
	leo	GS	M	10	S		IN	
	Amy	GD	F	8	S		IN	
	Mary	GD	F	3	S		IN	
ANDRIE	Gustave	X	M	30	M-3		Belgium-Fren	
	Georgette	W	F	32	M-3	0/0	Belgium-Fren	
DANDOY,	Anna	SIL	F	40	S		Belgium-Fren	
LORAND,	Anna	serv.	F	14	S		PA	
DURVAUX,	Alphonse	X	M	51	M-21		Belgium-Fren	
	Alida	W	F	42	M-21	01/01	Belgium-Fren	
	Rose	D	F	19	S		IN	
WITTEBORT,	Arthur J	X	M	30	M-10		PA	
	Bell B	W	F	28	M-10	01/01	IN	
	Clifford F	S	M	8	S		IN	
DUVEEZ,	Valentine A.	X	M	23	M-2		Belgium-Fren	1894/Na
	Belle	W	F	25	M-2	0/0	IN	
DUTTON,	James A.	X	M	57	M-34		OH	
	Ella J	W	F	57	M-34	06/04	OH	
REEDER,	John R	SIL	M	26	M	0/0	OH	
	Opel	D	F	18	M	0/0	IN	
DUTTON,	Earl J	S	M	26	S		OH	
GOOSSENS.	Jacqueline	GD	F	18	S		IN	
	Raul P.	GS	M	16	S		IN	
DARDENE,	Joseph N.	X	M	48	M-17		Belgium-Fren	
	Salina	W	F	49	M-17	05/05	Belgium-Fren	
	Emily W.	D	F	12	S		IN	
	Georgia T.	S	M	10	S		IN	
	Nellie S.	D	F	8	S		IN	
	Evon F.	D	F	6	S		IN	
	Joseph F	S	M	4	S		IN	
BAXTER,	J William	X	M	37	M-3		IN	
	Jennie	W	F	28	M-3	02/01	Belgium-Fren	
	Mildred	D	F	5	S		OH	
FIEVET,	Pierre	X	M	35	M-10		Belgium-Fren	1891/Na
	Camille	W	F	31	M-10	02/02	Belgium-Fren	1891
	Lillian	D	F	5	S		IN	
	Yvonne	D	F	1y 3m	S		IN	
HELLYER,	John	X	M	20	M-3		IN	
	Oliva	W	F	24	M-3	02/02	Belgium-Fren	1886
	John V.	S	M	2	S		IN	
CULOT,	Elvire	X	F	49	Wd	03/02	Belgium-Fren	1890
	Eveline	D	F	26	S		Belgium-Fren	1890
ANDRE,	Constant	X	M	65	M-43		Belgium-Fren	1891/Na
	Omerine	W	F	63	M-43	09/08	Belgium-Fren	1892
	Leon	D	F	25	S		Belgium-Fren	1892
	Carlos	S	M	22	S		Spain-Fren	1892
	Ralph	S	M	20	S		Belgium-Fren	1892
LAITEM,	Xavier	X	M	63	Wd		Belgium-Fren	1881
LALIEU,	Victor	X	M	60	M-38		Belgium-Fren	1885/Na
	Julian	W	F	2	M-38	04/03	Belgium-Fren	1885

The "Marche de la Madeleine" in Jumet

By Jean Marie DONTAINE, Lesdain, Belgium

"La Madeleine", term which might sound familiar to the older generation of "Jumétois" who emigrated to the United States. Those who have kept in touch with "el vî payis" (the old country) will no doubt remember their parents or grandparents speak of this with some emotion.

With the return of the good weather, Jumet bristles... Sometimes the evening walker hears, here and there, the drum roll, a trumpet or a horn play a few scales. Or he might spy a billboard inviting him to a card contest or to dinner... *"Djumet fét ses appresses"*... Jumet is getting ready...

As July approaches, excitement grows. Sometimes, one band dressed in full uniform ("the *costume of a Mad'leineux*") will go out to practice: a few drums and a fife lead a group of "civilians" wearing a cap or a "képi". It's a ceremony at the "Chapel" where old and new groups have their flag blessed. It is time to try out newly learned pieces of music or just to practice the classics played during the Madeleine.

The Madeleine is actually short for "la Marche Militaire de Sainte Marie-Madeleine".

As an old "*marcheur*" (participant in the march), I could share my own experience, but it might seem too much like an anecdote. So, I have based this article on a book I was pleased to work on: "La Madeleine", published in 1993 in the series "Tradition Wallonne".

What is "La Madeleine"?

In the Entre-Sambre et Meuse and Charleroi areas, the term "Marche" or "Tour", still involves a procession and the carrying of relics or of a religious statue. So it is a religious event, which, over time took on the characteristic of tradition mixed with folklore. For instance there is the "Marche Saint-Roch" in Thuin or in Ham-sur-Heure, and the "Tour Saint-Jean" in Gosselies, or again the "Tour" or "Marche de la Madeleine" in Jumet.

These terms represent a complex reality whose origins could be the topic of never-ending discussions between historians and folklore experts. The fact remains that written documents on the subject are rare if not missing. We are faced with Tradition, which is of essentially oral origins.

So, few participants can explain why they take part in the march. We believe there are as many reasons to participate, as there are participants: family tradition, neighborhood or city traditions, religious belief, or just to have fun.

However it seems all agree that "marching together" brings a feeling of belonging to a community, a group, a neighborhood,

a region. In the March, everyone is on the same footing. The ranks held within the groups have nothing to do with social status but are dependent upon the personal merit of the participant within their society.

Origins

Although we have no absolute proof of this, only few clues, "La Madeleine" will celebrate its 620th year.

BASTIN-LEFEVRE, in "Roux, Jumet et Sart-les-Moines" written at the end of the 19th century, says that the Marche takes its origins in a plague epidemic, which in 1380, killed many people. The lady of the Castle of Heigne fell ill and, begging for her to be healed, her husband ordered a procession. An emissary from the castle caught up with the Jumétois at the half-way mark, and announced that his mistress had recovered. This was cause for great celebration, at the site called "*Tère al'danse*" and a return to happiness.

"Si non e vero, e bello".

There never was a castle in Heigne. So, there never was a lady of the castle. As for the plague, why would that of 1380 have

been more remarkable than any that ravaged our countryside during the Middle Ages?

Still, old texts give some indications about some great pilgrimages to the Chapel of Heigne. Whoever speaks of pilgrimage implies important sanctuary. Remnants of a great church were found in Heigne, along with several sanctuaries, one of which burned down. Today's chapel is built on earlier remnants. A pillar sunk in more than 1m beneath today's floor can be seen in a ditch made during the last restoration¹⁷.

Another theory involves the downpour of rain that our region experiences during July and August. They say that, once, the rains were so severe that the harvest was compromised. The peasants decided to organize a procession to ask Heaven to "turn off the valves". When they reached Thiméon, the sun broke through the clouds and began to shine in all of its July splendor. The peasants began to dance at the site called "*Tête al'danse*", mentioned above. Nobody can tell where the story came from however.

Another theory dates back to the Middle Ages. Those were the days when the Normans raided our regions regularly. In 880, one particularly audacious raid sacked Liège. The Normans continued up the Meuse River then the Sambre, going straight towards the Kingdom of France.

Louis III, the Saxon fought them in *Thimium*, or Thiméon. But the Normans didn't stop there however. It would take the victory of Arnould of Carinthia, near Leuven, in 891 to convince them to leave our region.

Some find that the victory in Thiméon is at the origin of the dance step used by all the groups when they reached the "*Tête al'danse*" mentioned earlier. Although we are sure of the Battle of Thimium, there are doubts as to the translation of Thiméon. Some think of Thuin, community on the Sambre, West of Charleroi, some 25 kms from Jumet.

So, there goes the historical explanation.

Another indication is found in the "*Bancroix*", which were obligatory pilgrimages whose origins are likely found in the Parishes giving alms to their diocese. These obligations were constantly fought by the people. They tried in vain by any means possible to escape from them. But Jumet was dependent on the Abbey of Lobbes. So the parishioners had to go there. But the Bancroix of Lobbes were set for March 24th which does not match at all the date of July 22nd for the Madeleine. As we know that dates for such events are unchangeable... this theory too goes out the window.

Today's format of the march is relatively recent, dating back to the end of the 18th century. In yesteryears, regular military troops escorted the march not only to honor it. There is no need to think the troops were to protect the relics as no procession was organized during times of trouble.

At the beginning of the 18th century, the civil and religious authorities forbid the military to accompany the processions.

A few documents dating back to the 17th century lead us to think that July 22nd must have had some importance in Heigne. On the other hand, the "*Tête al'danse*" holds its own undeniable antique characteristic. Today people seem to agree to recognize that the sites where the dances take place were the site of ancient ritual celebrations, which predate the introduction of Christianity. One denotes through a series of

elements, that this site held an ancient, most likely pagan, sacred aspect.

Other things lead in the same direction, like the stop of the procession in front of only certain churches. In fact we note that the stops occur only at the site of the oldest sanctuaries, which had been built above pagan sacred places. Moreover the itinerary of the procession is remarkable, in the sense that it follows the old streets. The discovery of a Roman villa near the most southern point of the procession (Thiméon) makes one think that it must have defined the boundaries of an ancient parish, in which case postdating the arrival of Christianity. We might add that in many cases, Christianity tried to blend its beliefs to the earlier pagan ones.

The path followed by the procession is unusual. It covers about 25 km. and covers the territory of the old communities of Jumet, Roux, Courcelles, Viesville, Thiméon, Gosselies and back again to Jumet.

La Madeleine takes place on the Sunday the closes to July 22nd, Saint Marie-Madeleine Feast day. It starts at 5am and goes on until 1pm. Here's a typical detailed itinerary: At 4am: Pilgrims' Mass in the Chapel of Heigne.

A few hundreds yards from there, on the Place Francq, people begin to gather, as everything is to start at 5am. This is the order in which the groups line up:

- The Roux Jockeys
- The Cross, the Relics and Statues (Notre-Dame de Heigne followed by Saint Roch and Saint Marie-Madeleine)
- The Heigne Archers (only society admitted at the heart of the religious procession)
- The Pilgrims
- The Young Bourgeois
- The Old Mamelouks
- Varied Societies
- The Green Jockeys
- The Civilian Horsemen

Speaking of where each group is situated within the procession, some societies have spots, which are practically unchangeable, because fixed in tradition. For example, the first Society in line is... The American Sailors. Further down, the Heigne Lancers escort the Procession Flag, behind the General's coach.

The Marche is made up of more or less 2,000 participants, among whom several dozen horsemen. It is therefore necessary to coordinate these marching troops, each according to its proper rhythm and features...

¹⁷ more about this in a future article

New Sites of Interest for Researchers:

1. Thimister, Clermont-sur-Berwinne, Herve area: covering from between 1500 (even earlier!) up to 1750-1800.
<http://www.acomeliau.net> lists 15,000 couples.

2. Transcripts of the Notarial records of Aubel, Clermont, Charneux and Thimister, Julémont, Mortier, Trembleur.
<http://perso.infonie.be/sdcsdc>

3. Fayette Co., West Virginia Births, 1888-93

Collection of birth records from the county between 1888 and 1893: more than 7,100 children. Researchers will find the child's name, birth date, and parents' names. Source Information: Ancestry.com. "Fayette County, West Virginia, Births, 1888-1893." [database online] Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 2000-. Taken from: "Fayette County, West Virginia Birth and Death Records, 1866-1968." County court records located at Fayette, West Virginia or Family History Library microfilm #584761.

To search this database, go to: <http://www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/inddb/4798.htm>

Area News:

Wisconsin Corner:

Peninsula Belgian-American Club

On September 7 the bus to O'Hare Field will be full (56 passengers) and the travelers are now anxiously preparing for the Peninsula Belgian—American Club tour to Belgium. For several members, it will be their first visit to the country of their ancestors. A 9—day trip to Rome will be included in the tour. The Wallonie—Wisconsin Society of Belgium will also host a one—day tour to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Golden Heart at Beauraing, Belgium. The group will visit castles and Abbeys in that region. Wallonie—Wisconsin is arranging for host families to welcome the American visitors into their homes.

A special event took place at the P.B.A.C. meeting June 15. Rt. Rev. Abbot Thomas DeWane, O.Praem. celebrated Mass for the group using the same table used by Rev. Bernard H. Pennings, the first Norbertine priest to come to northeastern Wisconsin more than 100 years ago. The P.B.A.C. clubhouse is the first chapel and schoolhouse built by Father Pennings to serve the Belgian families of the area. A few years later, he became the first Abbot of the Norbertine Order in the United States and founded St. Norbert College in DePere, Wisconsin.

In 1986, at the instigation of L'Abbé Jean DUCAT, the people of Grez—Doiceau, Belgium and the Peninsula Belgian—American Club erected a monument at Champion, Brown County, Wisconsin, honoring the first Belgian immigrants to this area. An unfortunate accident occurred in 1998, which destroyed this monument. We are happy to announce that it has been rebuilt and now stands again reminding us of our ancestors who left their homeland to establish themselves in a strange country, and gave us our proud heritage.

Mary Ann Defnet - Green Bay, Wisconsin

East Superior, WI

The Belgian Club in Allouez, a suburb of east Superior, Wisconsin, hosted the first neighborhood reunion on Saturday, August 12. Over 400 people, mostly of Belgian extraction, and from ages 4 months to 94 attended and enjoyed the get-together immensely.

With a beautiful sunny day to add to the enjoyment and allow the needed space, the reunion ran from noon to midnight.

Many people brought cookies, cake, brownies, and other snacks to eat throughout the day, and a neighborhood caterer, Kurtz Catering, provided a great supper smorgasbord with ham, turkey, meat ball, potatoes and gravy, veggies, relishes, rolls -- the works.

A brief program took place at 4 p.m. with a slide show of Old Allouez, featuring many of the businesses and people of the area, mostly Belgian, Polish, and Finnish immigrants from the turn of the century.

For the most part, it was the gathering of old friends and neighbors who hadn't seen each other in over fifty years in many cases that made the day memorable. People came from as far away as California, Arizona, and Puerto Rico to mark the occasion.

Among Belgian surnames represented were the following:

Amys, Archambeault, Arseneau, Balcer, Rotsaert, Bleyenbergh, Buytaert, Byrnes, Colpaert, De Bock, De Bruyne, De Clark, De Graef, Dens, De Smet, Dhooge, Dobbelaere, Dumonsau, Govin, Gotelaere, Heytens, Jolicoeur, Wassenhove, Jaques, Van Overmeiren, Joos, Van Rossem, La Perre, Kurtz, La Bounty, La Boy, La Joie, Laureys, Le Page, Liebaert, Lozon, Leyn, Heirman, Parenteau, Leemans, Van Damme, De Mol, Gyllen, Smet, Van Landschoot, Neyaert, Noonan, Potthier, Rathbun, Ruthgeerts, Shears, Van Driessche, Van Vynckt, and Vergauwen.

Planners will have another Allouez Reunion in July 2003.

John Buytaert - Cloquet, MN

Northwest News

Saturday July 22 we enjoyed our 8th annual "Belgian Picnic" at the home of Don & Pearl VandenHeede in Boring, Oregon. The thunderstorm the night before cooled down the heat of the last days but the rain had let up by the time the first participants arrived at 12 noon sharp. Although the weather scared off some of the people who had registered for the event, we saw many of our "die-hards" show up for the wonderful fellowship, which by now has become a summer highlight for most of us in the Northwest. There were several new-comers as well, who were welcomed with open arms by all present.

The VandenHeede ranch was aglow in flowers. Pearl proved herself to be a real artist with her flower arrangements in baskets, barrels and wheelbarrows that surround and embellish

the ranch. The shelter they built and inaugurated last year for the picnic was especially appreciated at night this year as some of the 50-some participants looked for welcome heat from the Franklin stove, humming comfortably in the south corner of the shelter. As promised, there were the real Belgian fries with mustard pickles. Don and Pearl initiated their new out-door wok which did a marvellous job on onions rings and chicken tenders; John and Linda Norton-Skonzert brought their homebrew of Belgian beers and again surprised everybody with the quality of their craft. Keep it up Linda and John, your "framboise" was unrivaled! None of the many new Micro-breweries in Oregon has managed to come up with a product of that scope!

Several new people announced their interest in a 2001-trip to Belgium. I have to have a firm commitment by September first in order to finalize the plans, which, by the way had been on my "way-back-burner", because of an apparent lack interest. I'm delighted with the renewed interest shown this last weekend, and hope to have a minimum number of participants before I will take the necessary steps for travel and accomodation arrangements.

We want to thank Don and Pearl VandenHeede again for their unparalleled hospitality and hope to see you all again next year! Leen Inghels

West Virginia Corner:

The Belgian - American Heritage Society of West Virginia held their 9th annual picnic on Sunday, July 16 at 1:00 at the Clarksburg City Park in Nutter Fort, WV. There was much food, games and fun for all ages.

Approximately 125 Belgians and their families were in attendance. Our picnic is extended to any one of Belgian descent interested in attending. We always have many visitors as well as local participants in attendance, it is always a pleasant surprise to see how the news of our picnic seem to spread

throughout the country. We were so delighted to have a reader of "Belgian Laces" from Wisconsin joining us for this picnic along with her relatives from Pennsylvania. Also a gentleman from Ohio and then of course the relatives from out of state that attend yearly. The BAHS of West Virginia have also been very busy this year and particularly this month with spreading the word of our organization. I was informed by an employee of our local paper that he was putting together a pictorial of the settlers to Harrison County and wanted to include the Belgians that had settled here. After a few phone calls we had more than enough pictures to present to him of those families from past years.

I received a phone call in early July from the Belgian Embassy in Washington, DC saying that they had reporters from the Television Station from the French speaking part of Belgium and had the day to visit with us and do an interview with some of our members. In such short notice once again, we were able to get enough together to give them the information they needed to explain the settlers in our area and the interest in the Belgian heritage today as always.

When the local paper heard that we had the interview with the Belgian reporters, two days later did a follow up on our organization in the community and were able to use pictures that we had submitted for the pictorial a few weeks prior. So as

you see it has been a busy summer.

The next meeting of the Belgian American Heritage Society of WV will be Sunday, October 8, 2:00, PM at the Waldomore in Clarksburg. All Belgians are welcome to attend our meetings.

Sincerely,

Vickie Zabeau - Bowden

Queries:

BL-00-385: St. Gery Church, Brussels

The Church St Gery in Brussels was for many years the religious home for the nobility and for the wealthy of Brussels. Following the French Revolution, the French authorities ordered the destruction of the old church building, after seizing the goods of the church and selling them. The building was completely destroyed by September 22nd, 1801. Many of the noble and wealthy families were buried within the walls and floors of the church. What happened to the remains of those buried when the church was demolished? Were they re-interred elsewhere? Are there any existing records that would indicate what became of the remains?

David B. RIETZ

1682 Clifton Avenue, Highland Park IL 60035

BL-00-386: DUYVEJONCK/KETELS

I am looking for information on my greatgrandfather, **Emeric DUYVENJONCK**, born in Zwevezele, 13 May 1872 and my grandmother Emma DUYVEJONCK, born 15 Dec 1895 in Zwevezele. Also my great-grandmother **Mary KETELS**, born 2 Feb. 1872, Zwevezele - died on 17 Jan. 1903.

Emeric and Mary had 4 children: Jules Victor (12 Jun. 1893, Zwevezele) is the only one of the four who remained in Belgium and I have no information on him. The three younger children were Kamiel, Emma and Ernest, who emigrated to the US in early 1900s. Kamiel and Emma remained in the Detroit , MI area. Ernest may have moved with his father to OH. Emeric married Emma COLPAERT who died 13 May 1918, then Elodie MARTENS, b 24 Mar. 1894, Zwevezele.

William & Shirley ROWE - matilda@express-news.net

ANSWERS:

BL-00-386: DUYVEJONCK/KETELS

From the records:

FHL#1386315 gives the following information:

Joannes DUYVEJONCK, laborer, 43y old, born in Zwevezele declared that his wife **Philomena VANDENBERGHE**, 31y, also born in Zwevezele gave birth to their son, Emericus DUYVEJONCK, born 13 May 1872, Zwevezele.

Joannes KETELS, laborer, 42y old, born in Zwevezele declared that his wife **Barbara MESTDAGH**, 44y old, spinner, gave birth to their daughter Mary KETELS, born 2 Feb. 1872, Zwevezele.

From Patty: POChadleus@aol.com

Renyldus COMMYN, b 16 Jul. 1877, the son of Augustus COMMYN and Ludovica VANDERPLANCE and **Hortense DUYVEJONCK**, b 2 Apr. 1880, Zwevezele, the daughter of Joannes DUYVEJONCK and Philomena VANDENBERGHE, emigrated on 24 Aug 1907. Their kids were: Cyrilla, Adhemar (Peter), Victor, Frederick and John COMMYN.